FRIDAY
May 5, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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THE TROUBLE ENGINE SARKARA

CORRUPTION RATE CARD
2019 - 2023

CM Post	**₹2500 Cr**
Minister Post	**₹500 Cr**

APPOINTMENT & TRANSFER RATES

KSDL	₹5 Cr - ₹15 Cr
Engineers	₹1 Cr - ₹5 Cr
Sub-Registrar	₹50 Lakhs - ₹5 Cr
BESCOM	₹1 Cr
PSI	₹80 Lakhs
Asst. Professor	₹50 Lakhs - ₹70 Lakhs
Lecturer	₹30 Lakhs - ₹50 Lakhs
FDA	₹30 Lakhs
Junior Engineer	₹30 Lakhs
BAMUL	₹25 Lakhs
PWD Jr. Engineer	₹10 Lakhs
Constables	₹10 Lakhs

JOB RATES

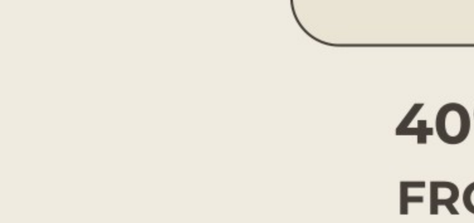
BDA Commissioner	₹10 Cr - ₹15 Cr
KPSC Chairman	₹5 Cr - ₹15 Cr
DC & SP	₹5 Cr - ₹15 Cr
Vice-Chancellor	₹5 Cr - ₹10 Cr
AC & Tehsildar	₹50 Lakhs - ₹3 Cr

GOVT DEALS % COMMISSION

GOVT DEALS	COMMISSION
Covid-19 Supplies	75%
PWD Contract	40%
Mutt Grants	30%
Procurement	40%
Egg Supplies	30%
Road Contract	40%

40% SARKARA HAS LOOTED OVER ₹ 1,50,000 CRORES
FROM THE PEOPLE OF KARNATAKA IN THE LAST 4 YEARS.
AT THIS RATE, THERE WILL BE NO STATE LEFT.
STOP THE LOOT!

Vote for change, development and progress.
Vote for Congress.



Press the 'Hand' button Ensure Congress wins

Gruha Lakshmi ₹2000/month for women
Gruha Jyothi 200 units FREE electricity
Yuva Nidhi ₹3000/month for graduates ₹1500/month for diploma holders
Anna Bhagya 10kg rice per person/month
Uchita Prayana Free Bus Service for Women

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EXIT OF A LEGEND

Karaikudi Mani passes away

SOUTH » PAGE 9

GO FIRST CRISIS

And another airline bites the dust

It is a pointer to the issues facing the aviation sector

EDITORIAL » PAGE 10

HOPES DASHED

India, Russia suspend rupee trade talks

BUSINESS » PAGE 16

Many killed in Manipur riots; govt. issues shoot-at-sight order

Clashes began after a march was taken out by tribes against move to grant ST status to the majority Meitei community; hundreds of houses, churches, temples, vehicles vandalised or set ablaze; Internet suspended; Army and RAF deployed

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

The Manipur government on Thursday issued a shoot-at-sight order in "extreme cases", as escalating ethnic violence following a tribal solidarity march displaced over 9,000 people in the State. There was no official confirmation of the number of people killed or injured in the violence, but Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh admitted that "some precious lives were lost".

Clashes initially broke out during the course of Wednesday's solidarity march, called by the All Tribal Students' Union, Manipur. The Scheduled Tribe communities, mostly from the Kuki-Zomi group, are protesting against a move to grant a long-standing demand for ST status to the Meitei community, which makes up the majority of the State's population. On April 19, the Manipur High Court directed the State government to submit its recommendation to include the Meiteis in the ST list to the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry by May 29.

Spiralling violence: Vehicles in flames in the State capital Imphal on Thursday. PTI

Mr. Biren Singh appealed to the people to maintain peace and harmony, soon after updating Home Minister Amit Shah about the situation.

Hundreds of houses, churches, temples, and vehicles were either vandalised or set ablaze across five districts: Imphal, Churachandpur, Bishnupur, Kangpokpi, and Tengnoupal. Among the seriously injured was Manipur MLA and former Tribal Affairs Minister, Vungzagin Valte, who was admitted to hospital after a mob attacked his official residence in the State capital Imphal.

Curfew continued in some districts, while Internet services were suspended.

Nearly 500 personnel of the Rapid Action Force were flown in on Thursday morning. They joined 55 columns of the Army and the paramilitary Assam Rifles, apart from the police.

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MORE REPORTS
» PAGE 13

NEARBY

Concern over breach of voter data and privacy

BENGALURU
Many voters are getting automated calls where they are being asked whom they would vote for. Not just that, breach of privacy and data have been a major concern this election season. » Page 4

NEET students worried about roadshow impact

BENGALURU
With Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow in Bengaluru being held on the day of NEET on Sunday, many students are worried about how they will reach their exam centres.
» Page 8

METROPLUS » PAGE 7

Jaishankar discusses LAC with Qin, holds talks with Lavrov, but not Bhutto

Suhasini Haidar
BENAULIM

The unresolved three-year-old military stand-off at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) remained the "focus" of India-China talks as External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met with Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang here on Thursday, and held a "detailed" discussion on bilateral ties.

This is the second time the two Ministers have held talks this year, as Mr. Qin had earlier attended the G-20 Foreign Ministers Meeting in Delhi in March.

Mr. Jaishankar also met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Uzbekistan counterpart Bakhtiyor Saidov, after which he hosted them and all the other Foreign Ministers from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), at this Goan beach resort for a meeting on Friday.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with his Chinese counterpart Qin Gang on the sidelines of SCO meet in Goa on Thursday. AP

However, no bilateral meeting was held or planned by officials between Mr. Jaishankar and Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, although the two Ministers greeted each other and shook hands at the dinner event, sources said.

Mr. Bhutto said his visit was "focused exclusively on the SCO" and that he looked forward to speaking to his counterparts from "friendly countries".

"A detailed discussion with State Councillor and FM Qin Gang of China on our bilateral relationship. [The] focus remains on resolving outstanding issues and ensuring peace and tranquillity in the border areas.[We] also discussed SCO, G20 and BRICS," Mr. Jaishankar tweeted about his meeting, although neither side issued any official statement about the talks.

CONTINUED ON
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Leg-up for all tongues, no Hindi imposition: Shah

Varghese K. George
Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

The BJP stands for the promotion of all Indian languages and the accusation that it promotes Hindi at the cost of regional languages is "politically motivated", Home Minister Amit Shah has said.

In an exclusive interview with *The Hindu*, Mr. Shah said the party would win an absolute majority in Karnataka, where issues of regional identity have featured in a big way in the election campaign.

Dismissing the allegation that the BJP and the Union government were trying to impose Hindi, he said the Modi government had put in systems to conduct recruitment tests for all-India services in all languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Central services exams

"... The BJP is working to strengthen all local languages. Most of the Central services exams can now be taken in local languages. Earlier, someone who has studied, say, in Kannada medium would have found it difficult to take many of these exams. NEET can be taken in several languages, so can exams for recruitment of constables, with SSC as the basic qualification..."

"So our work is to encourage local languages, including for studies for engineering and medicine. This encouragement to local languages is also a part of the New Education Policy (NEP), and interestingly, it is the Congress in Karnataka which is opposing the NEP in its manifesto, thereby also opposing studies in Kannada. How do they explain their stand?" he added.

INTERVIEW
» PAGE 13

Stop caste survey, HC tells Bihar govt.

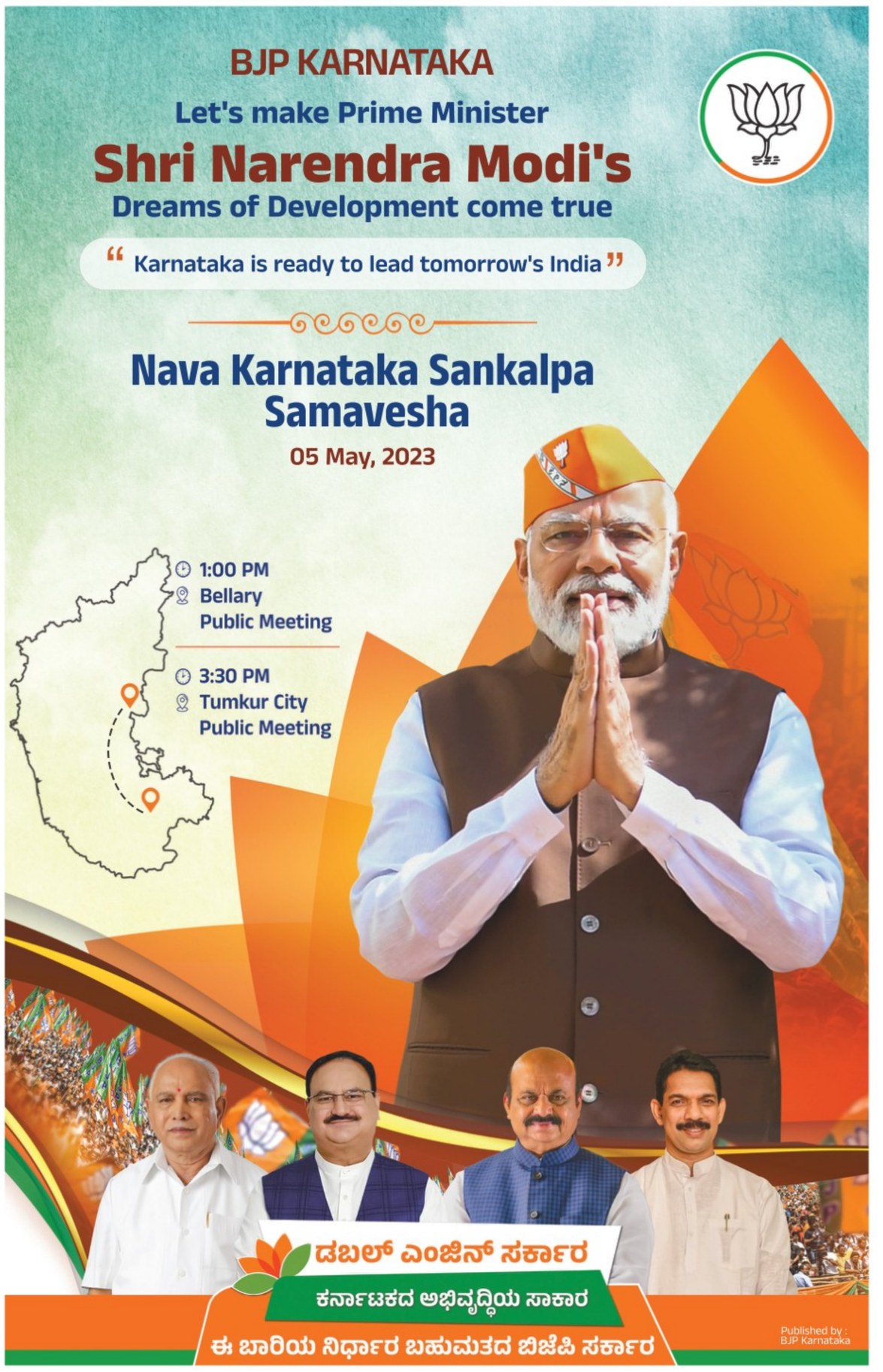
Amit Bhelari
PATNA

The Patna High Court on Thursday ordered a stay on the caste-based survey being conducted by the Nitish Kumar government.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice K.V. Chandran and Justice Madhuresh Prasad, hearing a petition filed by Akhilesh Kumar and others, directed the government to immediately stop the survey and ensure that the data already collected are preserved and secured.

The data should not be shared with anybody till the final orders are passed, the court said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12



Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Indian companies invested $40 billion in the U.S., says CII

163 companies. The survey titled "Indian Roots, American Soil" of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was launched by India's Ambassador to the U.S. Taranjit Singh Sandhu. PTI

Most Indians alarmed or concerned about global warming: study

82 In percentage. Most Indians were in favour of bringing in energy policies to reduce the effects of global warming, according to Global Warming's Four Indias, 2022: An Audience Segmentation Analysis. PTI

The calls made to mental health centres in Srinagar by women

70 In percentage. The call centre under the Tele MANAS initiative was established at the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences in Rainawari in Nov. 2022 and 10,000 calls were received since. PTI

The additional investment made by Denmark for defence

5.6 In $ billion. Denmark upped its defence spending due to the Ukraine invasion. "Global security policy and economic developments have meant ..more defence resources," the defence ministry said. AFP

The expected outflow of people from Sudan as per the UN

8.6 In lakh. The UN said it is planning this outflow from conflict-torn Sudan, and that it would need $445 million to support them just through October. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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On the Washington Declaration

What prompted the visit of South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol to the U.S.? Why does South Korea not have its own nuclear arsenal? What is the significance of the new agreement? How does it relate to nuclear deterrence? How have China and North Korea responded?

EXPLAINER

Femy Francis

The story so far:
On April 25, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol arrived in the U.S. to commemorate the 70th anniversary of U.S.-South Korea bilateral relations. A highlight of the visit was the signing of the "Washington Declaration" as a nuclear deterrence strategy.

What prompted the U.S. visit?
The successful launch of North Korea's Hwasong-8 solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), a vital component for nuclear weapons delivery, seems to have triggered the U.S. visit of the South Korean President. Mr.Yoon aimed to advance the strategic partnership, drawing an alliance over an extended nuclear deterrence plan against the regional aggression of North Korea. The Washington agreement will launch a new phase in the partnership between Seoul and Washington. "Our two countries have agreed to immediate bilateral presidential consultations in the event of North Korea's nuclear attack and promised to respond swiftly, overwhelmingly and decisively using the full force of the alliance, including the United States' nuclear weapons," said Mr.Yoon.

What does the Washington Declaration say?
The agreement outlines cooperation towards deterrence.

According to the declaration, an American nuclear ballistic submarine would be deployed in the Korean peninsula; a nuclear consultative group would be formed to formulate principles of joint response tactics; South Korea would receive Intel from the U.S. regarding nuclear advancements; and the U.S. will strengthen South Korea's nuclear deterrence capabilities through joint military training programs and an annual intergovernmental simulation. The declaration reaffirmed the non-proliferation Treaty implying that South Korea would not venture into the creation of its own independent nuclear capabilities and would instead focus on deterrence measures through an alliance-based approach. It also mandates the U.S. President as the only 'sole authority' to use the nuclear arsenal of the U.S. in the event of a nuclear confrontation. While the existence of the agreement is based on the security needs of South Korea, the policy reflects big power politics where the interests of the larger power (U.S.) takes precedence.

Firm ties: U.S. President Joe Biden and South Korea's President Yoon Suk Yeol on April 26. REUTERS

Why is the U.S. not keen on S.Korea having a nuclear arsenal?
South Korea's nuclear development programme supported by former president Park Chung Hee was hindered due to U.S. pressure. In the 1990s, the U.S. withdrew one hundred nuclear weapons from South Korea as part of their "Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty". The U.S. was hoping to make North Korea unarm itself. Washington made an erroneous assumption that it could deter the weapons production of North Korea by extracting South Korea's nuclear capacity.

Secondly, the Nuclear Posture Review 2022 reflects a shift in the U.S. narrative where it is now concerned about the progressing nuclear capacities of North Korea. The report states that North Korea creates "deterrence dilemmas for the United States and its Allies and partners," and that "a crisis or conflict on the Korean Peninsula could involve a number of nuclear-armed actors, raising the risk of broader conflict."

And finally, the U.S. wants to control global nuclear arms production. It has been reluctant to allow South Korea to develop their own nuclear arsenal as it would hinder the prolonged efforts of controlling nuclear production in the world. The assurance that the U.S. and its nuclear weapons would protect its allies by being responsible for maintaining stability in the region aligns with the larger goal of non-proliferation. Washington plays a major influence in South Korea's foreign policy objectives, and Seoul would rather not disappoint the U.S. as they are a vital supporter of their cause.

What has been the regional response?
The Washington Declaration advocates for nuclear deterrence policy in the region, aiming to balance power dynamics against North Korea. While the aim is to defuse the threat, physical deployment of the arsenal can be deemed as a direct threat by opposing actors and used as leverage to act aggressively.

China criticised the agreement with Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning saying, "What the U.S. is doing .. provokes confrontation between camps, undermines the nuclear non-proliferation regime and the strategic interests of other countries." North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un's sister Kim Yo-jong warned that the declaration would, "only result in making peace and security of North-East Asia and the world be exposed to more serious danger."

What is the domestic response?
The South Korean public are sceptic about U.S. support. A poll by the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations reported that 71% of South Koreans want to build their own nuclear weapons. With an aggressive North Korea in the neighbourhood, they would prefer their own deterrence.

The writer is a Research Assistant at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru

THE GIST

- On April 25, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol arrived in the U.S. to commemorate the 70th anniversary of U.S.-South Korea bilateral relations.
- Mr.Yoon aimed to advance the strategic partnership, drawing an alliance over an extended nuclear deterrence plan against the regional aggression of North Korea.
- The declaration reaffirmed the non-proliferation Treaty implying that South Korea would not venture into the creation of its own independent nuclear capabilities.

What is behind Manipur's widespread unrest?

What triggered the conflict between the non-tribal Meitei people and other tribal groups?

Rahul Karmakar

The story so far:
Manipur has been restive since February when the BJP-led government launched an eviction drive seen as targeting a specific tribal group. The drive led to protests but not on the scale of the one on May 3 triggered by the Manipur High Court's direction to the State to pursue a 10-year-old recommendation to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the non-tribal Meitei community.

What is Manipur's ethnic composition?
Geography has a lot to do with Manipur's problems. The State is like a football stadium with the Imphal Valley representing the playfield at the centre and the surrounding hills the galleries. Four highways, two of them lifelines for the State, are the valley's access points to the world beyond. The valley, which comprises about 10% of Manipur's landmass, is dominated by the non-tribal Meitei who account for more than 64% of the population of the State and yields 40 of the State's 60 MLAs. The hills comprising 90% of the geographical area are inhabited by more than 35% recognised tribes but send only 20 MLAs to the Assembly. While a majority of the Meiteis are Hindus followed by Muslims, the 33 recognised tribes, broadly classified into 'Any Naga tribes' and 'Any Kuki tribes' are largely Christians.

What is the Meitei argument?
Hearing a petition by eight people representing the Meetei (Meitei) Tribe Union, the Manipur High Court on April 19 directed the State government to submit, within four weeks, a 10-year-old recommendation to the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry for the inclusion of the Meitei community in the ST list. The court referred to the Ministry's letter in May 2013 to the Manipur government seeking specific recommendation along with the latest socio-economic survey and ethnographic report. The letter followed a representation submitted by the Scheduled Tribe Demand Committee of Manipur (STDCM), which began demanding ST status for the Meiteis in 2012. The petitioners told the High Court that the Meiteis were recognised as a tribe before the merger of the State with the Union of India in 1949. They argued that the ST status is needed to "preserve" the community and "save the ancestral land, tradition, culture, and language" of the Meiteis. The STDCM also said the Meiteis needed constitutional safeguards against outsiders, stating that the community has been kept away from the hills while the tribal people can buy land in the "shrinking" Imphal Valley.

Why are tribal groups against ST status for Meiteis?
The tribal groups say the Meiteis have a demographic and political advantage besides being more advanced than them academically and in other aspects. They feel the ST status to the Meiteis would lead to loss of job opportunities and allow them to acquire land in the hills and push the tribals out. Groups such as the All Tribal Students' Union of Manipur point out that the language of the Meitei people is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and many of them have access to benefits associated with the SC, OBC or EWS status. "To the hill tribal people of Manipur, the demand for ST status is a ploy to attenuate the fervent political demands of the Kukis and Nagas, as well as a tacit strategy of the dominant valley dwellers to make inroads into the hill areas of the State," Jawaharlal Nehru University lecturer Thongkholal Haokip wrote in 'The Politics of Scheduled Tribe Status in Manipur'.

What led to the unrest?
Pro-government groups in Manipur claim some tribal groups with vested interests are trying to scuttle Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh's crusade against drugs. The anti-drug drive began with destroying poppy fields and the theory that "illegal settlers" from Myanmar – ethnically related to the Kuki-Zomi people of Manipur – are behind clearing forests and government lands to grow opium and cannabis. The first violent protest on March 10 was against the eviction of the residents of a Kuki village. This made the State government withdraw from the suspension of operations with two Kuki extremist groups accused of inciting the protesters. The large-scale arson and violence claiming the life of at least one person on May 3 and 4 followed a "tribal solidarity rally" against the reported move to include the Meiteis in the ST list.

THE GIST

- Large-scale violence broke out on May 3 triggered by the Manipur High Court's direction to the State to pursue a 10-year-old recommendation to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the non-tribal Meitei community.
- The petitioners told the High Court that the ST status is needed to "preserve" the community and "save the ancestral land, tradition, culture, and language" of the Meiteis.
- Tribal groups feel that the ST status to the Meiteis would lead to loss of job opportunities and allow them to acquire land in the hills and push the tribals out.

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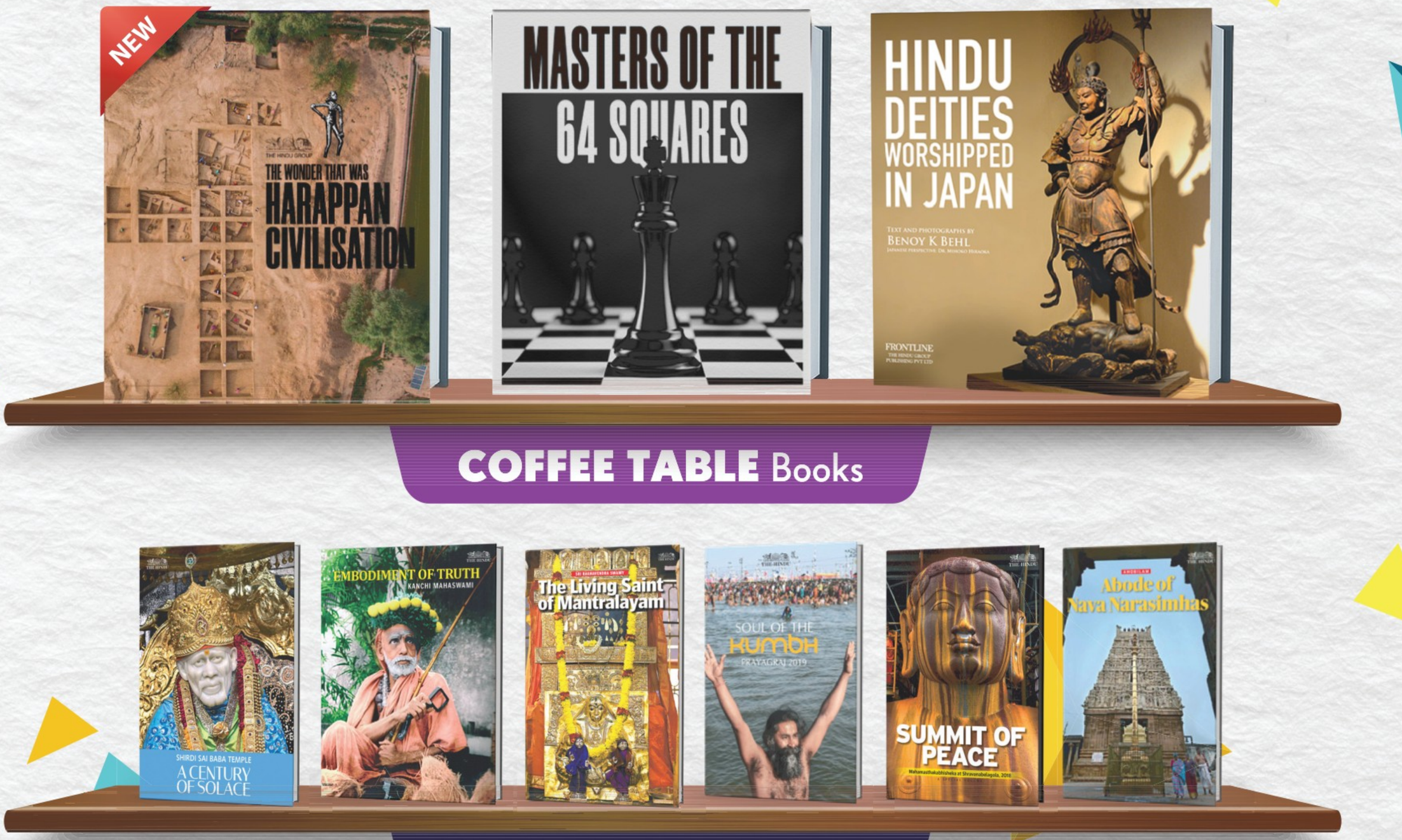
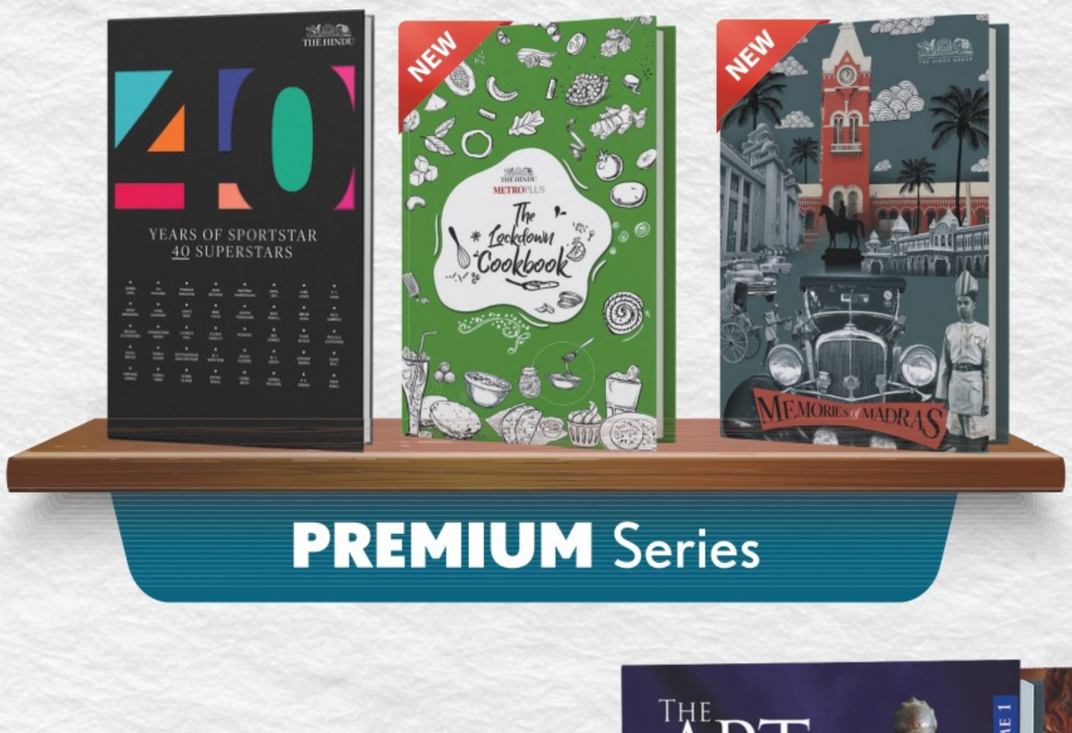


COFFEE TABLE Books



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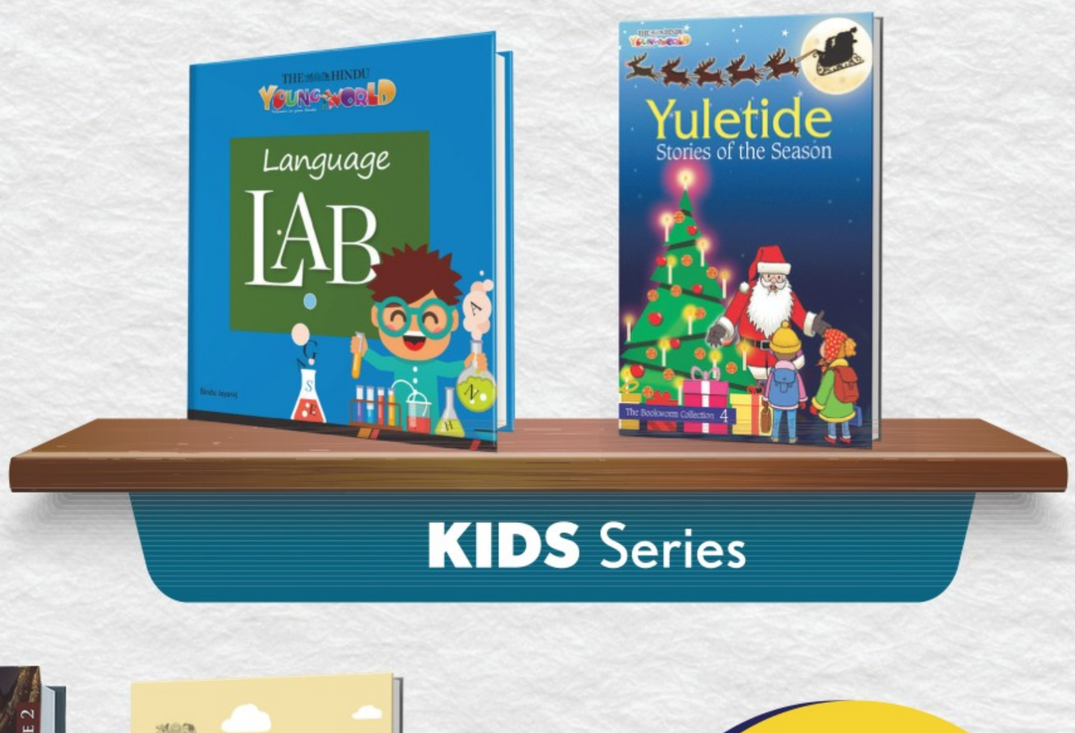

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Karnataka Golf Association comes under RTI Act: HC

The fact that 124 acres of land has been leased on 2% of the annual gross income indicates that the association has been substantially financed by the State government, says court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has said that Karnataka Golf Association (KGA), Bengaluru, comes under the purview of the Right Information (RTI) Act, 2005, as the association is "substantially financed by the State government."

"The fact that 124 acres of land has been leased on 2% of the annual gross income would indicate that the association has been substantially financed by the State. It is to be noticed here that association can run the golf course only if the land is available to them and if the land is given to them on a heavily subsidised rent, this would amount to a substantial financing as contemplated under RTI Act," the Court observed.

The KGA had questioned the legality of the order passed by the Karnataka State Information Commission in October 2014.

Justice N.S. Sanjay Gowda passed the order while dismissing a petition filed by the KGA in 2014.

The KGA had questioned the legality of the order passed by the Karnataka State Information Commission in October 2014 holding that association is a 'public authority' under the RTI Act.

The court cited earlier similar judgments of the court holding that the Bangalore Turf Club Ltd, the Mysore Race Club Ltd, the Ladies Club, Bengaluru and the Institution of Engineer (India), Karnataka State Centre, Bengaluru are also 'public authorities' under the RTI Act.

HC dismisses plea of tenants of BBMP's Gandhi Bazaar old market complex

The court, however, says that until the new building is completed and auction is carried out, the petitioner-tenants should not be disturbed from their occupation of temporary shops provided to them by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has said that the tenants of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's Gandhi Bazaar old market complex cannot automatically seek allotment of a shop in the new market complex without going through the process of auction.

However, the court said that until the new building is completed and auction is carried out, the petitioner-tenants should not be disturbed from their occupation of temporary shops provided to them by the BBMP subject to they making payment of past dues and future licence fees. Justice Suraj Govindaraj passed the order while dismissing the petition filed by K.R. Vinayaka and others.

The petitioner-tenants had questioned the public notice issued by the BBMP asking them to vacate the old market building, which is dilapidated, to enable the civic body to demolish the old structure and to build new market complex under the Bengaluru Smart City Project.

The petitioner-tenants are at liberty to participate in the auction process to be conducted by the BBMP after completion of new market complex, the court said.

The court refused to accept their claim that they should be allotted shops at market price without compelling them to participate in the auction as they were conducting business in the old building from several decades.

On petitioners' claim that they are small business persons, both men and women, and they may not be able to participate in the auction, the court said that this cannot be a ground for direct the BBMP to allot shops to them as the property in question is a public property and the same cannot allotted with by the BBMP without conducting public auction as per the law.

Bengaluru and Dresden researchers discover novel molecular system

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Researchers from Bengaluru and Dresden have discovered a unique two-component molecular motor that uses a kind of renewable chemical energy to pull vesicles toward membrane-bound organelles.

Researchers have discovered a novel molecular system that uses alternative chemical energy and employs a novel mechanism to perform mechanical work. The researchers, whose work has been published in the journal *Nature Physics*, are from the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics, the Cluster of Excellence Physics of Life and the Biotechnology Center of the Technische Universität Dresden in Dresden, Germany.

Motor proteins are remarkable molecular machines within a cell that converts chemical energy stored in a molecule called ATP, into mechanical work. The most prominent example is myosin which helps our muscles to move.

In contrast, GTPases, which are small proteins, have not been viewed as molecular force generators. One example is a molecular motor composed of two proteins, EEA1 and Rab5, said NCBS.

"Our results show that the proteins EEA1 and Rab5 work together as a two-component molecular motor system that can transfer chemical energy into mechanical work. As a result, they can play active mechanical roles in membrane trafficking. It is possible that the force-generating molecular motor mechanism maybe conserved across other molecules and used by several other cellular compartments," said Marino Zerial of the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics.

Overall, the researchers hope that this new interdisciplinary study could open new research avenues in both molecular cell biology and biophysics.

Penumbral lunar eclipse on May 5

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A penumbral lunar eclipse will take place on May 5. The penumbral eclipse of the Moon occurs when the Moon passes through the outer part of the Earth's shadow.

Prof R.C. Kapoor, formerly with the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, said that the phenomenon would be visible in India.

"The penumbral eclipse of the Moon begins at 8.44 p.m., reaches a maximum at 10.53 p.m. on May 5 and ends at 1.02 a.m. on May 6, 2023. It will, in principle, be visible in India, but hard to notice a few per cent loss in the brightness," said Prof Kapoor.

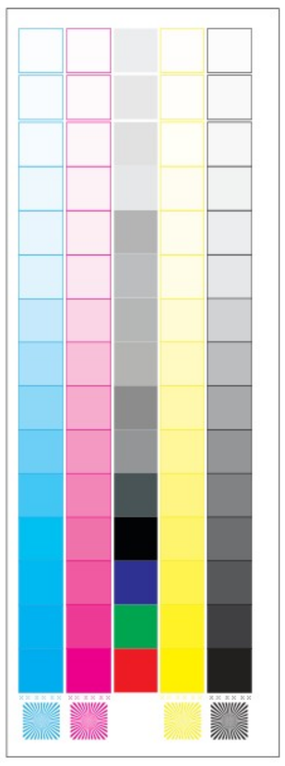
The penumbral eclipse of the Moon occurs when the Moon passes through the outer part of the Earth's shadow.
FILE PHOTO

Decrease in brightness

He added that the decrease in brightness of the Moon would be about 10 per cent only, hardly noticeable to the human eye.

"Many smart photography experts can take images showing slight differences in the brightness in the pictures taken during and outside of the eclipse," he added.

On April 20, there was a hybrid solar eclipse lasting about 5 hours and 25 minutes. However, it was not visible in India.



Woman pedestrian, two others killed in separate accidents

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 30-year-old food delivery executive and a woman pedestrian were killed in separate road accidents in different parts of the city since Wednesday night.

The food delivery executive, identified as Nagappa Gangenahalli, was killed on the spot when he lost control of the scooter he was riding and rammed into a goods vehicle parked on the roadside in the wee hours of Thursday.

The vehicle had broken down and was parked on the roadside without safety measures, the police said. Nagappa was riding to work in Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage when the incident occurred. The Kamakshipalya police have taken up a case of death due to negligence against the goods vehicle owner for further investigations.

In another incident, a 65-year-old woman pedestrian was killed when a speeding autorickshaw driver knocked her down at Minerva circle on R.V. Road on Thursday.

The deceased, Anjalamma, a resident of Jayanagar, was on her way to the temple and crossing the road when the incident occurred.

The profusely bleeding Anjalamma was rushed to Victoria hospital, where doctor declared her as brought dead. The city market traffic police have registered a case against the autorickshaw driver Babu A.R., 53.

In the third incident, a 19-year-old autorickshaw driver was killed and the passenger injured when he lost control of the vehicle and collided with a goods vehicle on Coolie Nagar bridge in Rajajinagar on Wednesday night.

Five juveniles arrested for stealing bikes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kodigehalli police on Wednesday caught five juveniles who were stealing bikes parked in front of houses to perform bike stunts.

The police, who had put up a checkpoint at R.P. Road in Sahakaranagar for random vehicle checks, intercepted a motorcycle rider who was trying to avoid the police. A detailed inquiry led the police to confirm that it was one of the stolen vehicles from the area in June last year. Further inquiry revealed that the accused rider Sharath Kantharaju had borrowed the bike from a juvenile. Based on his confession, the police detained the juvenile along with four of his associates and recovered 17 stolen motorcycles worth ₹8.5 lakh from them.

With their arrest, the police have solved 12 vehicle theft cases.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : RE-E-Tender No 21/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN, KIIFB - AUGMENTATION OF WSS TO ANGAMALY CONSTITUENCY - PART 1 - PACKEGE 1 - CONSTRUCTION OF 9M DIA WELL CUM PUMP HOUSE, SUPPLY AND LAYING OF 600 mm DI RAW WATER PUMPING MAIN , SUPPLY AND ERECTION OF 400 KVA TRANSFORMER, RAW WATER PUMP SET ETC at Thopilkadavu General Civil Work. **EMD :** Rs. 5,00,000/-, **Tender fee :** Rs. 19518, **Last Date for submitting Tender** : 15-05-2023, 03:00 pm, **Phone :** 0484-2360645, **Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer
PH Circle, Kochi

KWA-JB-GL-6-188-2023-24

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform general public that our client, **Mrs.Susan.M.G.** W/o Biju Prasad Aged About 47 years, R/at, #15 A, 14th A Cross, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Bangalore-560024. Mob: 9886627033 is the absolute owner of the schedule property at, Bearing site no.3 bearing Katha no. 356 (356/3) (old katha no 1213/03), situated at, **Mariyannapalya, Sai Temple -Road, Dasarahalli, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru South taluk** now comes under BBMP Limits Ward no.6 thanisandra Measuring East to West 50 feet North to South 30 feet Bangalore 560024. It has come to our client's knowledge that some person by name Renold Kishore or some unknown people are trying to sell the above mentioned schedule property with fabricated documents.

Any transaction done through the above said person or their representatives shall not be binding on our client and our client will not take any responsibilities for the same and further any transaction on the schedule property shall not be binding on our Client in the future and our client will initiate legal action against them.

Shaji .T Verghese, Advocate
Legal i Advocates and solicitors
Call : 9845154053

Dated : 04/05/2023 Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to purchase the immovable Property which is more fully described in the schedule here in below for valuable consideration from its original owner **R Mohan,** that if any person has any right title or right to claim over the schedule property they may come forward with the original documents and provide the manner of right, title in writing with the under sign, within **15 days** from today, on failure of any such objection/claim being received our client shall proceed with intended sale transaction and shall be deemed that no one has any right to claim over the schedule property right that may exist is waived off.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of House Property bearing No.27/3 (Earlier Eastern Portion of Site No.27/1), 5th 'A' Main Road, Thyagarajanagar, Bangalore-560 028, Property ID (PID) No.51-33-27/3, measuring East to West: 25'-0" (Twenty Five Feet) and North to South : 18'-0" (Eighteen Feet), totally 450 Sq. Ft along with building thereon, consisting of 400 Sq. Ft of Ground Floor & 400 Sq. Ft of First Floor, **totally 800 Sq. Ft.**

GP Rao and Associates
#76, Murthy Building, 3rd Floor, D.V.G Road, Nettakallappa Circle, Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004
Tel-26621124 / 9343323453

Date : 04-05-2023 **Place :** Bangalore.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MADHUSMITA Parhi spouse of Subhanjan Parhi resident of H. No. N1/13, DRDO Phase–1, Bengaluru–560093, have changed my name from Madhusmita Parhi to Madhusmita Panda vide Affidavit dt 02 May 23.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I Boddepalli Jhansi D/o Boddepalli Sankara Rao, W/o Amit Kumar Sinha, residing at Chaluvarayaswamy Nilaya No 109, 9th A Main Road Vinayaka Nagar, Ramanagara, Karnataka - 562159, have changed my name to Jhansi Sinha for all purposes in future

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, LAKSHMI T Kumar D/O Lt. Colonel S.T.T Thampi born on 30/06/68 residing at House No.156, Defence Enclave , K Naryanapura Cross, Kothanur P.O, Hennur, Bangalore–560077 have changed my name to Lakshmi Kumar vide affidavit dated 10/04/23 before Notary Nair Ajay Krishnan at Trivandrum.

I, MAHADEVI, Spouse of No.10490183L, Rank HAV, Name Basavaraj Halabar, presently R/a Gokak Taluk, Betageri Post, Belagavi Dist, Karnataka State - 591233, have changed my name to Mahadevi Basavaraj Halabar vide affidavit dt: 16.12.2022 sworn before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, B'luru

I, RASUL, R/o No.647, 7th Cross, 2nd Block, 1st Stage, Behind BDA Complex, HBR Layout, Bangalore-560043 have changed my name to Mohammed Razool vide affidavit dt: 02.05.2023 sworn before Notary S.R.Nanjunda Swamy, B'luru.

I, GOPALAKRISHNAN Purushotam Kumar S/O Lt. Colonel P.G Nair born on 12/10/61 residing at House No.156, Defence Enclave, K Naryanapura Cross, Kothanur P.O ,Hennur Road , Bangalore–560077 have changed my name to Gopalakrishnan Purushotam Uttam Kumar vide affidavit dated 10/04/23 before notary Nair Ajay Krishnan at Trivandrum.

I, JHUNU Mahapatra, D/o Devendra Rana Service No. JC819780M, Rank: Sub Major, Name: Laxmidhar Mahapatra, presently R/at CMP Centre and School, Bangalore have changed my name from Jhunu to Jhunu Mahapatra and Correct D O B is 11/06/1974 vide affidavit dated 27-04-2023 before Notary Ganesh Gowda.M.V, Bangalore.

EDUCATIONAL

VACANCIES

DATTA ENGLISH Medium School, Raghavendra colony 2nd stage, Bellary Teacher's required for the below subjects Mathematics, Science, Social, English. Contact Number:9886039664/ 9243997075

PUBLIC NOTICE

MISSING

Notice is hereby given that the documents bearing original sale deed 2014/1956-57 dated 09-02-1956 executed between Late.Munnikupamma and Late Abbaiah registered at Sub-registrar, Civil Station, Bangalore has been misplaced and not traceable yet.

The property details Ward no.115 Vannarpet, BBMP, Bangalore, having PID NO.71-29-50/5 Measuring 1470 sft. Located at 50/5, 1st Cross, Bazaar St. Vannarpet, Bangalore 560047.

The report has been lodged at Viveknagar Police station on dated 22-03-2023 vide report no. 0541519/2023.

If anyone found the original documents within 15 days from the date of this notice kindly inform Mr.A. Govindan at 50/5, 1st Cross, Bazaar St. Vannarpet, Bangalore 560047, Mobile no. 9916172887.

At the same time the suitable reward is promised.

SD/-

SITUATION VACANT

GENERAL

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE
Ida Scudder Road, Vellore-632 004, TN.

CMC Vellore, Tamil Nadu, is looking for experienced Senior Engineers and Asst. Engineer for Engineering Planning department.

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ASSISTANT ENGINEER (Term Appointment)

Qualification – BE. or B.Tech.or B.Arch. (Civil). Preferably 2yrs experience after qualification Age: Below 30years

JOB ROLE: 1) Knowledge of current building codes, construction codes specifications and regulations. 2) Knowledge in AUTOCAD, MS Projects and MS Office is essential. 3) Knowledge in REVIT will be preferred.

LAST DATE OF APPLICATION:12th MAY 2023

Salary will be commensurate with experience. Only Regular mode will be acceptedApplications should be made online **https://www.cmch-vellore.edu** → General → Vacancies → Online Job application. Application through other Job portals will not be considered. Emails for clarification may be sent to **gsoffice@cmcvellore.ac.in.** No direct phone calls / personal appointments will be entertained.

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SRINIVASA KADUGODI	MANASA KONANKUNTE	BALAJI DOMMASANDRA	VINAYAKA HARINAGAR	SADHANA ARSIKERE	THULASI MARATHHALLI	SHANKAR GAURIBIDANUR	KAMAKYA KATTRIGUPPE	
PUSHPANJALI B.N.PURA	BRUNDA HONGASANDRA	RAVI EJIPURA	BALAJI VIVEKNAGAR	SIMHA CHAMARAJNAGAR	SRINIVASA S.G.PALYA	BENAKA MALUR	SUMA K.M.DODDI	
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ANJAN MAGADI ROAD	VEERABADESHWARA KAMALANAGAR	VENKATESHWARA KONAPANA AGRAHARA	VIJAYA BANGARUPET	MEENAKSHI K.G.F	MURALI GOKULA MATHIKERE	SLN HESARAGHATTA	HINDI VERSION	
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		AAKASH LAGGERE	PRUTHVI HASSAN	PLANET KARKALA	AMARASHREE MOODUBIDRE	JAYALAKSHMI MULABAGILU	BHARATH JAGALUR	BALAJI TAVAREKERE

IN THE LIMELIGHT

A still from *Icarus*.

Changing the way we experience games: the rise of sports documentaries

The stories of famous sports personalities are full of cliches, from charting a rags-to-riches story to affirming that an individual has the power to shape his destiny. Documentaries are an adept vehicle to narrate them in a manner where cliches are not muddied with a fictional screenplay

Tamma Moksha

In the summer of 2014, an amateur cyclist living in Boulder, Colorado decided to race in the Haute Route Alps, an 800km cycling event from Megève to Nice spanning seven days. Bryan Fogel looked up to cyclists like Greg LeMond and Lance Armstrong all his life and wished to emulate their grit, performance and athleticism. However, when Lance admitted to doping in 2013, Bryan felt the need to follow in his footsteps, document his journey and expose the loopholes in drug testing programs to the world.

His Academy-Award-winning documentary *Icarus* starts out as an absurdist comedy with close-ups of the filmmaker injecting banned substances in his buttcheeks as the head of Russia's doping agency, Grigory Rodchenkov supervises him through video calls. The duo soon become friends and halfway through the documentary, Grigory blows the whistle on Russia's doping program revealing the role of the Russian government in assisting its athletes to dope during the Sochi Winter Olympics.

What began as Bryan's strange passion project morphs into a political battleground; Rodchenkov is flown down to the U.S. for his safety and put under a witness protection program as Russian athletes are stripped of their medals and their country banished from the world sporting stage. *Icarus* helped change the perception of sports documentaries for a large audience and introduced them to the malleability of the medium. While sports documentaries have always been around, *Icarus*' Oscar-win would propel them into the spotlight and the consequent pandemic would mould them to suit the palette of a young demographic.

Changing consumption patterns

When the world came to a halt in March of 2020, sports matches across the world got cancelled, stadiums turned into quarantine shelters and audiences' interaction with live sports went for a toss. As people turned to streaming platforms to keep them company, Netflix's *The Last Dance*, a docuseries chronicling Michael Jordan's career at the Chicago Bulls using archival footage from the 1997-98 season, would introduce them to a new way of consuming sports – through episodes featuring talking heads, access to elite athletes, and archival footage that takes a life of its own on-screen and serves as the key storytelling device. The docuseries familiarised the youth with the sport while letting the veteran fans revel in the memories of the glorious victories. The career trajectories of Michael, Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman worked as inspiration and a welcome distraction during the lockdown.

This ignited a spark in the field of sports documentaries that shows like *Drive to Survive* would nurture. The five-season-long docuseries would take the audiences into the paddocks of Formula One, which until recently prided itself in its secrecy and reward them with access to the biggest names in the sport. While understanding a technical sport like Formula One might seem like an arduous race with no chequered flag in sight, the docuseries serves as a convenient vehicle for introducing the uninitiated to the sport with the help of interviews with drivers, team principals and seasoned F1 journalists.

The show also served as a brand-building exercise for Formula One – not only has the sport made a younger demographic take interest in it but it also made headway into countries that otherwise did not pay heed to it, like the U.S.

To chart out their legacy

Documentaries started being perceived as a decent marketing strategy with multiple sports organisations, teams and personalities approaching streaming platforms to pursue deals to dedicate a documentary to their sport.

This model has been replicated with Tennis bagging *Break Point* that released on Netflix this year while golf was made the protagonist in *Full Swing*. Sports teams have resorted to documentaries to spell out their history to the world, as was the case when actors Rob McElhenney and Ryan Reynolds featured in *Welcome to Wrexham* where they learnt to run the third oldest professional football club in the world. Meanwhile, two seasons of Amazon Prime's *The Test* is all about the Australian cricket team's path to redemption.

Most of these documentaries are in the form of a docu-series, a medium that is unique to streaming services. While it is unfathomable to compress the history of any sport into ninety minutes, these docu-series provide creators with the freedom to thoroughly explore the subject matter without compromising on certain plot points.

Sports and storytelling

Spectator sports has served for many as a confrontation with their selves and it promises a cure for social inequality to people at large. The legends of Muhammad Ali, Diego Maradona and Tiger Woods are full of cliches, from charting a rags-to-riches story where underdogs reign supreme to affirming that an individual has the power to shape his destiny. Documentaries serve as an adept vehicle to narrate them in a manner where the emotions and cliches are not muddied with a fictional screenplay.

Sports documentaries spread their influence outside the playground – from Naomi Osaka's eponymous documentary that delves into the player's cultural roots and her mental health to politics that signal doom to an entire sport as seen in Netflix's *FIFA Uncovered*.

Some might allege that the documentaries are impacting real-time sporting decisions: former race director Michael Masi's last lap call in the 2021 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix is one such example when some F1 drivers alleged that he prioritised drama to entertain the audience instead of sticking to the rule book.

While sport has always been integral to fictional filmmaking, the boom in sports documentaries is dictating the choices of filmmakers, an example of which is Taika Waititi's upcoming feature *Next Goal Wins*, which was inspired by a 2014 documentary of the same name.

It can be argued that with the increased enmeshment of live sports, documentaries, and documentary-inspired films, filmmakers might chance upon new storytelling devices and broadcast strategies to provide a better picture of the sport and advance storytelling on the screen.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Chinese grandmaster Ding Liren became only the 20th player to have won the World Championship (open) in chess. Here's a quiz on the best in the sport

Srinivasan Ramani

QUESTION 1

A heavy smoker and drinker, this chess GM was briefly world champion in the 1960s. His innovative, aggressive play on the board set him apart for his peers. Name him.

QUESTION 2

Early in his career, the former chess world champion Mikhail Botvinnik had this to say about possibly the strongest GM ever in chess — "In the hands of this young man lies the future of chess".

QUESTION 3

This GM was a second to Viswanathan Anand and has also helped groom the outstanding Indian chess talent Arjun Erigaisi recently. He was FIDE World Chess Champion in the early 2000s for one year. Name him.

QUESTION 4

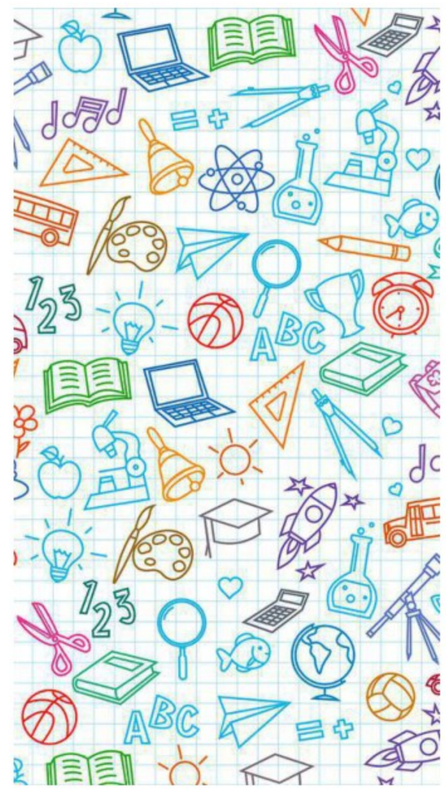
A world champion with a phenomenal record on the board against his peers; he was once unbeaten for eight years from February 10, 1916 to March 21, 1924 — over 63 games in which he won 40 and drew 23. Name him.

QUESTION 5

A chess world champion and a teacher of chess who set up institutions of chess learning in the Soviet Union, this virtuoso was also an accomplished electrical engineer, who once won the Order of Badge of Honour for his work on power stations in the Ural mountains in Russia during World War II. Name him

Visual question:
Name the two players in the picture from a practice game at Moscow in June 1958. AP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This character was one of the first to speak in the first film of the franchise. **Ans: C-3PO**
2. How many parsecs did the Millennium Falcon make the Kessel Run. **Ans: 12 parsecs**
3. The profession of Luke's uncle Owen Lars. **Ans: He was a moisture farmer**
4. The mother tongue of this character played on screen by Peter Mayhew. **Ans: Chewbacca; Shyriiwook**
5. Yoda's age when he starts training Luke. **Ans: Nearly 900 years (899 to be exact)**
6. The full name of this eminent character in the series. **Ans: Jabba Desilijic Tiure**
7. The Akira Kurosawa flick that inspired the plot of Star Wars. **Ans: *Kakushi Toride no San Akunin* (The Hidden Fortress)**
8. This film in the trilogy was shot under the production title 'Blue Harvest'. **Ans: *Return of the Jedi***
Visual: Identify him and his biggest contribution. **Ans: James Earl Jones; he voiced Darth Vader**
Early Birds: K. N. Viswanathan| Shreya



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Mr. Alwar Kannan, Officer, State Bank of India, Dimapur, Nagaland, wants to know which of the following is correct: (a) He is taller than I (b) He is taller than me."

" 'He is taller than I' is grammatically correct and is used in formal English. But in conversational English, 'me' is used. You would sound rather pedantic if you said, 'He is taller than I.'

He is older than me.

She is smarter than me.

"Ms. Nalini Narayan, 2/5,13 Cross Street, Sastrinagar, Madras, wants to know whether the sentence 'We should play out of doors' is correct. The sentence is found on page 46 of the book *Science is Fun* prescribed for Class II by the Central Board of Secondary Education."

" 'Out of doors' is not used in such a context. Normally we say, 'We should play outside'. It is all right to say 'outdoor activities', 'indoor games', but not 'out of door activities', 'out of door games'."

"Mr. Deepak Agrawal, 48/3, PWD Colony, Jodhpur, wants to know the distinction between the following: collection, aggregation, conglomeration."

" 'Collection' is a 'a group of objects that have been collected and that belong together.' There is a homogeneity about the objects in a collection.

He has a fine collection of stamps.

'Aggregation' means "a number of separate things brought together into a mass or group." In aggregation, the emphasis is on the collection of individual units.

Learning is the aggregation of many men's sentences and acts.

'Aggregation' is less homogeneous than 'collection'.

'Conglomeration' means 'a number of things or parts stuck together in a mass.' 'Conglomeration' is a heterogeneous mixture, a mixture of things of different kinds.

There was a conglomeration of people from different parts of the world."

"Mr. R. Varadarajan, First Puthen Street, Trivandrum, wants to know whether the word 'homage' can be used 'for both the living and the dead.'"

"Yes.

They paid homage to the genius of Kalidasa.

He wants others to pay homage to him.

'Homage' means 'reverential regard,' 'flattering attention'."

Published in The Hindu on December 1, 1987

Word of the day

Recidivate:
go back to bad behaviour

Synonyms:
fall back, lapse, regress, relapse, retrogress

Usage: *Sometimes, those who come out of jail receive no support so they have no choice but to recidivate.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/recidivatepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: / rɪˈsɪd əˌveɪt, ri- /

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Come, Let's Compare

65 Years Vs 3½ Years

They have broken all records of corruption.	We have seen development at a record speed.
They have a record of weak and indecisive security.	We saw a determined fight against terrorism.
Their loyalty lies with one family.	For BJP, family means Karnataka.
Unkept promises and appeasement politics have been their political record.	Government of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' has empowered the poor and marginalised, ignored for decades.
They question the power of 'Made in India'.	BJP has spurred Indian innovation and jobs.
Their support is those who profit from politics and the terrorists find safe haven in them.	The poor, women, and young Kannadigas all stand firmly behind Modi.
In the name of opposing Modi, they insult our nation, culture and faith.	Modi has brought unparalleled glory to India in the world.
Karnataka lacked options then.	There is Narendra Modi's powerful double-engine government today.

ಡಬಲ್ ಎಂಜಿನ್ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಸಾಕಾರ

ಈ ಬಾರಿಯ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಬಹುಮತದ ಬಿಜೆಪಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

Press the Lotus Button Vote for BJP

Published by BJP, Karnataka

INBRIEF

Bannerghatta Biological Park to remain closed on May 10

Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) will remain closed on May 10 in view of the general election to Karnataka State Legislative Assembly. All the units of Bannerghatta Biological Park such as Zoo, Safari and Butterfly Park will not function, said BBP, in a release. However, the release said that all the units will remain open to the public on May 9.

CAT summer vacation

The Central Administrative Tribunal, Bengaluru Bench, will be observing the 1st spell of summer vacation till May 31. According to a CAT notification, the vacation Bench will function on May 11, 17 and 24 from 11 a.m. onwards. The Registry of Bangalore Bench will function as usual and will only receive applications of urgent nature during the above vacation and the filing time will be between 10.30 a.m. and 1 p.m., the notification stated.

Asthma awareness programme for BTP

The Department of Respiratory Medicine, Ramaiah Memorial Hospital (RMH) on Thursday organised an asthma awareness programme, walkathon and asthma screening camp for Bengaluru Traffic Police, to mark World Asthma Day at Ramaiah Memorial Hospitals. RMH in a release said that the event was aimed to educate the traffic police about the prevalence of asthma and the importance of early diagnosis and treatment. It was also aimed at informing participants of the early warning signs of asthma.

Voters express concern over breach of data and privacy

Some say even though they are not registered as voters from a certain constituency, they are getting calls from canvassers

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Priyanka K., a voter from Yelahanka constituency, received a phone call from an unknown number, which was identified as 'Election Commission of India' by a caller identification app. When she answered, there was an automated message which asked her to indicate her voting preference.

"The message asked me to press 1 if I was voting for BJP, 2 for Congress and 3 for JD(S). It further stated that my choice would be kept confidential. However, there was no mention of any organisation in the message. I have two numbers and I got the same call a few days apart on both the numbers," she said.

Just like her, many voters across the city are getting similar automated calls where they are being asked whom they would vote for. Not just that, breach of privacy and data have been a major concern this election season as many citizens are receiving multiple calls and messages from various political parties, media agencies, canvassers and unknown entities either asking for information about their voting or providing them information about a particular candidate or party.

Many voters in Bengaluru are getting automated calls where they are being asked whom they will vote for. FILE PHOTO

The specificity of these calls and messages have caused angst amongst voters as the recorded messages usually include the name of the voter and their constituency. Some have observed that even though they are not registered as voters from a certain constituency yet (as they might have recently shifted homes), they are still getting calls from the canvassers of such constituencies.

"Though I was a resident of Indiranagar, I moved out of the State many years ago. Yet, I received a call (not automated) from an AAP canvasser. I felt like my privacy was violated as I am on a do-not-call list and I have no idea how my number was obtained by that worker. I was wondering if it could have been the telecom company and why there is no government supervision to keep these things from happening," said Vishakh P., a businessman.

Voters have also received automated messages from BJP and Congress asking them to vote for particular candidates and in BJP's case, sometimes also to re-elect Basavaraj Bommai. The pre-recorded call also asks the respondents to record a message, which they claim would be sent to Mr. Modi, some voters reported. The party is also making very targeted calls on specific issues.

"Hours after Congress president M. Mallikarjun Kharge called Prime Minister Narendra Modi a poisonous snake, I got a call in which the caller played a bit of Mr. Kharge's speech and later a pre-recorded message asking if I would vote for someone who called the Prime Minister such names," said Bharath A., a voter from Byatarayanapura constituency.

On Thursday, Lakshmanappa lodged a complaint at the Malleswaram police station stating that the leaked voters' data was being used by political canvassers to influence the voters of Malleswaram constituency.

He said that many people were receiving WhatsApp messages with voter details. Based on the complaint, the police filed an FIR against unknown persons under various sections of the IT Act and Representation of People Act. Further probe has been initiated into it.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and the Election Commission officials said that they were aware of such cases. "The usage of the name of Election Commission of India is concerning. We have forwarded the complaints we have received about this to the cyber team to investigate and trace the callers," said Manoj Kumar Meena, Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka.

Tushar Giri Nath, Chief Commissioner, BBMP, also said that BBMP and the police were working together and taking action as and when complaints were coming in. "We request citizens to partner with us to stop such things by lodging a complaint with 1950 or by downloading the C-Vigil app," he said. He added that over 2,500 complaints against various election code violations had been lodged on the app so far.

(With inputs from Imran Gowhar)

'AAP has changed politics of entire country'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) schemes implemented in Delhi and Punjab are being copied by other parties who are making poll promises in Karnataka based on those schemes, alleged AAP State president Prithvi Reddy.

Mr. Reddy spoke at a media interaction programme organised by the Bangalore Press Club on Thursday and said, "Aam Aadmi Party has brought a change in the politics of the entire country, and we are seeing a huge change in Karnataka elections as well. In the previous elections, voters used to cast their votes only on the basis of caste and religion and based on emotional considerations. But in this election, they have started thinking: how will we benefit from voting,' he said, adding that this election is a fight between genuine and fake.

The party has given tickets to 27 farmers. "Notably, the AAP has given tickets to real farmers instead of namesakes," he said.

Bommanahalli voters seek better maintenance of lakes and SWDs

KEY CONSTITUENCIES

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Name any problem in an urban constituency, Bommanahalli has it. From silt filled, uncovered stormwater drains to pending lake development projects to flooding, notorious traffic jams, unwalkable roads and lack of last mile connectivity, Bommanahalli residents listed quite a few problems in their constituency which need immediate attention.

This constituency includes parts of J.P. Nagar, HSR Layout, Bannerghatta Road and the Bommanahalli area. Apart from many residential complexes, J.P. Nagar and HSR Layout are also the hosts of the growing pub culture, which has resulted in parking and traffic problems.

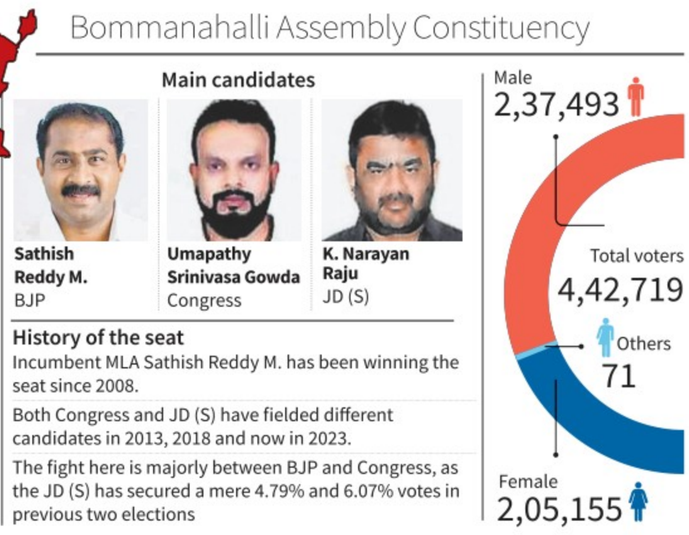
When the skies opened up last year, many residential complexes in the constituency were flooded, as Agara lake, Madivala lake and Iblur lake were among some lakes that breached. "Now our primary concern is that if it rains again, then the house will be inundated. The stormwater drains here have not been desilted and many of them have not even been covered properly, which means that anyone who walks on these roads without streetlights might fall into the drains," said Uma Mani, a resident of the constituency. She added that when a survey was taken up to find out the woes faced by the citizens here, connectivity issues were pointed out by many of them.

The citizens also said that while some parts of HSR Layout have been developed, other places like Bommanahalli and Iblur have been neglected. "The roads here are so narrow and motorists rarely follow any traffic discipline. For senior citizens and children, walking on the roads is a nightmare as footpaths are missing," said Sparsha V., a resident of Bommanahalli.

Mr. Reddy from the BJP has held the seat here from 2008. His approachability has also been a factor in his election three times here. However, Opposition leaders have reported that there are strong waves of anti-incumbency as development here has not reached its full potential.

"The MLA has been playing around with the caste card. This time, I have an advantage because of my age, the Congress wave and the calls for anti-incumbency," said Umapathy Srinivasa Gowda, the Congress candidate.

"While he has developed all high-end constituencies, the remote areas have been ignored by him. If you see Iblur village, there are no good roads, sanitation, drinking water or garbage collection facilities," said K. Narayan Raju, the JD(S) candidate.



Past results

	Winner	Votes polled Vote share	Runner-up Vote share	Votes polled	Third place	Votes polled Vote share
2013	Sathish Reddy M. BJP	86,552 49.53%	Nagabhushana C. Congress	60,700 34.73%	R. Sharatchandra JD (S)	10,621 6.07%
2018	Sathish Reddy M. BJP	1,11,863 57.21%	Sushma Rajagopala Reddy Congress	64,701 33.09%	T.R. Prasad JD (S)	9,379 4.79%

Past results

	Winner	Votes polled Vote share	Runner-up Vote share	Votes polled	Third place	Votes polled Vote share
2013	B. Shivanna Congress	1,05,464 56.56%	A. Narayanaswamy BJP	65,382 35.01%	Anekal Krishna JD (S)	7,307 3.91%
2018	B. Shivanna Congress	1,13,894 50.02%	A. Narayanaswamy BJP	1,05,267 46.23%	G. Srinivas JD (S)	2,932 1.28%

Anekal segment

From parts of the IT belt like Sarjapur, Electronics City, Hebbagodi, and Bommasandra to areas like Attibele, Huskur and many villages, Anekal constituency has a variety of voters. The semi-urban constituency has issues like bad roads and streetlights, garbage disposal problems and lack of good drainage system among other things. While it had been a stronghold of BJP prior to 2013, since then, B. Shivanna of the Congress Party has won elections twice.

'BJP is not acceptable to people of Shivajinagar'

INTERVIEW

Rizwan Arshad

Jahnavi T.R.

One of the youngest leaders of the Congress, Rizwan Arshad, is campaigning in full swing with the hopes of securing the Shivajinagar seat for the second time.

In a candid conversation with *The Hindu*, he spoke about his connect with young voters and his views on communal harmony among other things.

Excerpts:

After the JD(S) candidate's nomination was rejected, the fight now seems to be between you and Chandra N. of the BJP. What are your contributions as an MLA that gives you an edge?

The Congress has a very strong base here as we have been involved with people and their issues. Our bond with them is strong and we have supported them when they needed help. The BJP has limitations in Shivajinagar. We have worked in partnership with the public and that has given us goodwill. The BJP and its divisive agenda is not acceptable to the people of Shivajinagar.

Why are core areas of Shivajinagar not as developed as other CBD areas like M.G. Road or Brigade Road?

In the last three years, we have been the only constituency where the largest number (on 40 roads) of walkable footpaths were built. We have transformed the whole area. You can ask the residents how Ulsoor lake was and how it has been for the last one year. You can see development in Chandini Chowk and Jumma Masjid road. Our work speaks rather than us talking about it.

The halal meat controversy last year affected the traders at Russel Market. In your interactions with them, what have you found to be their concerns this time and how do you plan to address it?

Halal was an issue created deliberately by the Sangh Parivar to disturb the harmonious environment. But it was defeated as people rejected it. The Hindu brethren came out and said that they would buy meat from the shops they were buying from earlier and indicated that they would not buy into the poisonous argument. This

was not a Hindu-Muslim issue. This is how Hindus, Muslims, and Christians should stand up with each other and defeat communal agenda perpetrated for political gains.

How do you strike a balance between different religious groups in the constituency in these sensitive times?

Shivajinagar is a mini India where culture, language and religions are diverse. .I I strongly believe that doing politics in the name of a religion or community is not in the interest of the country. I am the man who is found in temples, churches, masjids, Jain temples, etc.

All parties are making use of their young leaders this time to reach out to the first-time voters. As a young leader yourself, how involved have you been with the young voters?

My connect with youngsters is quite strong as they have heard me speak multiple times and understood my vision for them. Young voters today are very aware of what is happening. They are not into the frenzy of caste and religion and are very pragmatic. They see the thoughts, programmes, vision and background of a particular candidate and go through their social media. We have conducted huge movements with youngsters and volunteers. They see me less as a politician and more as someone representing them.

Will Congress gain a full majority this time or are you open to alliances?

The Congress is in a comfortable position to form the government. People are fed up with the 40% commission and infighting. They are vision-less with no programmes whatsoever except for communalising and polarising society. People know that the Congress has a track record of giving stable governments with definitive plans for the progress of the State. We need to bring the reputation and economy of Karnataka back on track. I am pretty sure that people have decided to boot this government and bring Congress back to power.

If you are elected for the second term, what can we expect to see in Shivajinagar during your time?

The changes we have brought in, we will take it to the next level. We will raise the benchmark of development and bring infrastructure which a common man needs. I will continue my work on education, healthcare, sanitation and development. That is the commitment I will give to the people of Shivajinagar.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, MAY. 05	
RISE 05:58	SET 18:35
RISE 18:21	SET 05:28
SATURDAY, MAY. 06	
RISE 05:57	SET 18:35
RISE 19:19	SET 06:11
SUNDAY, MAY. 07	
RISE 05:57	SET 18:36
RISE 20:19	SET 07:00

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	33	26
Mysuru	32	23
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
32°C Morning will be pleasant with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm and humid. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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PM's visit: Traffic curbs today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In view of the Prime Minister's visit to Bengaluru on Friday, the police have advised motorists to avoid the following roads between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.: HAL Airport Road - Cambridge Layout Road - 100 Feet Road - ASC Centre, Trinity Circle - MG Road - Webbs Junction - Manipal Centre - Dickenson Road, Cubbon Road- BRV Junction - Raj Bhavan Road.

NIA files supplementary chargesheet against two in Praveen Nettaru murder case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) filed a supplementary chargesheet on May 2 against two more accused in the murder of BJP Yuva Morcha member Praveen Nettaru, allegedly by cadres of the Popular Front of India (PFI), in 2022.

Thufail M.H. and Mahammad Jabir have been charged under various sections of IPC and UA(P) Act, 1967. With this, a total of 21 persons have been chargesheeted in the case.

Thufail, who had been absconding, was tracked down and arrested by a NIA team in Bengaluru. The murder, which took place on July 26, 2022, in Bellare village of Sullia taluk in Dakshina Kannada district, had sent shock waves in Karnataka. Nettaru was killed with sharp weapons, allegedly as part of PFI's agenda to strike terror among members of a community, and create communal hatred and unrest in society with the aim of furthering its goal of establishing Islamic rule in India by 2047.

The initial chargesheet was filed by NIA on January 20, 2023. NIA had stated that PFI had formed secret 'hit squads' to carry out killing of its 'perceived enemies' and targets.

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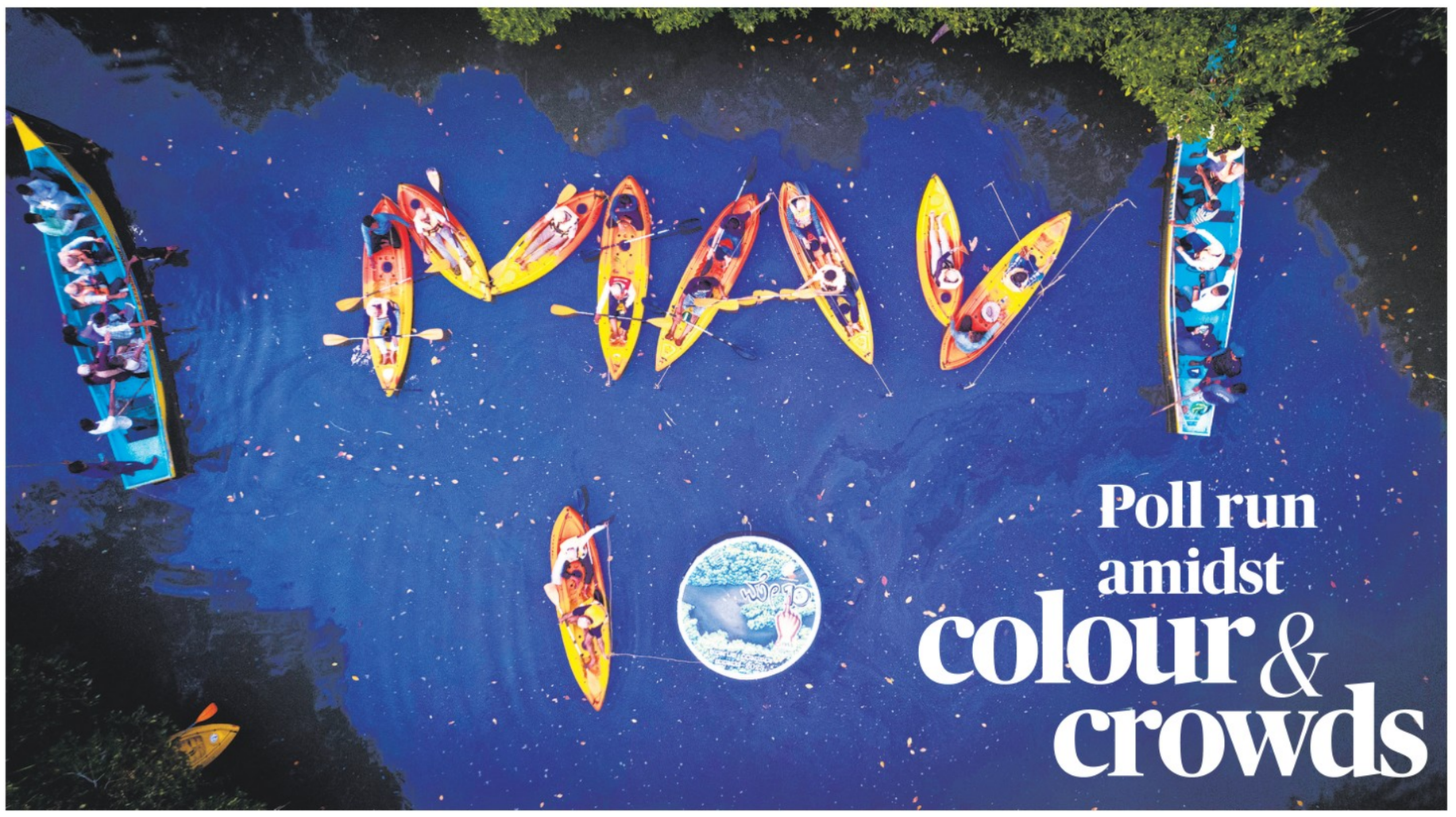
Actor Sudeep canvassing for BJP candidate in Hubballi. KIRAN BAKALE

BJP supporters at a roadshow of party president J.P. Nadda in Ramanagara. ANI

Congress supporters celebrate during the roadshow of party leader Priyanka Gandhi in Kalaburagi. ANI

Narendra Modi beats a drum during a public meeting. ANI

A senior citizen casts her vote during the 'Vote from Home' initiative. PTI



Poll run amidst colour & crowds

The Udupi District Systematic Voter Education and Electoral Participation Committee conducts a voter awareness programme through kayaking in the backwaters of Seetha river, Saligrama. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Congress leaders Siddaramaiah, M. Mallikarjun Kharge, and D.K. Shivakumar during the release of the Congress manifesto in Bengaluru. SUDHAKARA JAIN

BJP supporters at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow in Kalaburagi.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi waves at supporters during a roadshow in Chikkamagaluru.

This may be the age of social media, but nothing seems to replace the charm of direct connect through roadshows and campaigns in the poll season. Ahead of Karnataka's Assembly elections on May 10, BJP, Congress, and JD(S) have been taking out mega rallies and yatras. There have been rhetoric-filled speeches galore in every city, town, and village across the State.

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been campaigning extensively, the indefatigable former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda has hit the campaign trail in a wheelchair. Brother-and-sister duo of Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi are on a whirlwind tour of the State. Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar, perceived as competitors within Congress, have put up a united front. Arch-political rivals Siddaramaiah and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai shared a moment of bonhomie when they met at an airport hours after delivering fiery speeches against each other in political rallies.

The Hindu presents the colours of the poll season in pictures.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai with Congress leader Siddaramaiah at the Belagavi airport. ANI

AICC president M. Mallikarjun Kharge, KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar and Jagadish Shettar after the BJP leader joined the Congress. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Police conduct a flag march at Chickpet. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar at a photo shoot, (below) Priyanka Gandhi campaigning in Sringeri.

BJP supporters at a rally of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bengaluru. ANI

BJP workers at NICE Road junction on Magadi Road before the start of Narendra Modi's roadshow. K. MURALI KUMAR

H.D. Deve Gowda , H.D. Kumaraswamy, H.D. Revanna, Prajwal Revanna, and Nikhil Kumaraswamy at the Pancharatna Yatra in Mysuru.

Looking within Works by artist Indu Antony (below) provoke thought on one's state of being. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Art that articulates the mind

Mindscapes: In the company of others, which opened at the Museum of Art and Photography, uses art to help individuals connect better with themselves

Preeti Zachariah
preeti.zachariah@thehindu.co.in

The installation, composed of scraps of embroidered crimson, marigold, fuchsia, emerald, azure, vermillion and rose cloth all patched together, is massive, nearly scraping the ceiling of the fifth floor of the Museum of Art and Photography (MAP), Bengaluru where it is located. When you shift the fabric puddling around its base, you will find a hollow large enough to crawl inside, housing a little nook into which is crammed a fabric bean-bag, a pair of gloves, and an audio set-up telling the stories of some of this artwork's creators, related in their own voice.

Despite its scale and brilliance, this artwork titled Nanna Langa (My skirt) and conceptualised by Bengaluru-based transdisciplinary artist Indu Antony in collaboration with women from the city's Lingarajapuram locality, is intensely intimate, just like the sari petticoat it is modelled on.

Nanna Langa, which is part of MAP's recently opened exhibition, titled Mindscapes: In the company of others, evolved over a series of workshops conducted by Antony at the anganwadis of Lingarajapuram. The workshops conducted just before the second wave of the pandemic saw women gathering to learn how to embroider as well as share their life experiences and ponder questions of identity and well-being.

"I told them to stitch their stories, the most intimate ones that you cannot tell anyone," says Antony, recalling how hard it was, at first, since many women did not want to share their stories. She kept encouraging this sharing process, until "suddenly it snowballed into something so huge," she says, adding that today there are 546 stories, embroidered in multiple languages, all of which come together to form Nanna Langa.

Indu Antony is the artist-in-residence at Mindscapes Bengaluru, part of the larger Mindscapes cultural programme focussing on mental health, an international initiative supported by the London-based Wellcome Trust. The four-city programme, held in partnership with the Brooklyn Museum in New York, the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo, the Gropius Bau in Berlin, and the Museum of Art & Photography in Bengaluru, focusses on deepening the discourse around mental health through cultural and artistic interventions.

"Mental health is one of the biggest health challenges of contemporary times," points out Arnika Ahldag, chief curator at MAP. Art, she adds, can function as a safe and non-judgemental container to process thoughts and emotions, and lends itself malleable to any medium.

"There is growing evidence around the world to show that art-based interventions have a beneficial impact on mental health," believes Ahldag.

Antony's other works on display at MAP include a line of glazed ceramic pots titled *Thanni illame eppadi raktham kaluvuthu?* (Without water how will I wash the blood off?), 10 roughly hewn busts titled Us, an ode to women murdered in Lingarajapuram and an untitled salt paper print of some of the women of Lingarajapuram. Her art is also being displayed at her studio space, Kānike, in Cooke Town and Namma Katte (Our Space), a place for leisure for the women and children of Lingarajapuram.

"There were restrictions in the anganwadi spaces too," she says, adding that she wanted to open a space for women to sit, relax and do whatever they wanted to do. Namma Katte, which opened in early 2022, offers the women of Lingarajapuram that option. "This space has become so integral to the life of the women there," says Antony.

Besides multiple artworks by Antony, the exhibition also showcases collateral works by artists Christine Wong Yap, Mindscapes artist in residence at large, and Cecilie Waagner Falkenstrøm, Mindscapes international artist in residence. While Christine Wong Yap's beautifully-designed zines give you a sense of belonging, helping you identify what sparks joy, Cecilie Falkenstrom's exhibit, a stunning tapestry with highly-symbolic imagery woven into it, addresses "even broader concepts of data labour practices, and the mental health of content moderators, and the idea of "humans behind the machine," says Ahldag.

She adds. "To me, all these positions the artists have taken are related to Bengaluru, with its tech industry, local communities and young population, and all of them are rooted in language around mental health, in being able to express and be heard."

Mindscapes: In the company of others will be on view at multiple locations across the city, including MAP Bangalore, Kānike, and Namma Katte till August 2023.

Lost and found Members of *Clown's Labyrinth* in action. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Love, a many splintered thing

Clown's Labyrinth, a dance theatre production, delves into the oft overlooked vestiges of love and heartbreak

Ruth Dhanaraj
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It certainly makes the world go round, but every time you fall out of love, a mixed bag of feelings remain, adding to the pile of emotional baggage you carry into your next relationship. And most of the time, it is not the big stuff but the smaller, unnoticed or unaddressed issues that weigh you down.

According to Sahiba Singh, director and founder of Flux School of Arts in Bengaluru, "Most people struggle to pinpoint what they are going through, post a breakup. The piece looks at love and intimate relationships, and how they leave behind a maze of complex emotions – joy, grief, guilt, shame, bliss, envy and other emotions."

"With *Clown's Labyrinth*, we hope to show audiences how the struggle with self validation, lack of closure and things left unsaid, eventually boils down to understanding the need to find an anchored space within ourselves. And how a space of self love will enable one to get out of the labyrinth of these emotions."

So why clowns? "Since this is a difficult topic dealing with intense emotions, we wanted to bring a touch of lightness to it. All the performers telling their stories will appear as clowns," Sahiba says.

"The finale is a 12-minute dance piece, where the performers shed their skin and become as real to themselves as they can – by fully embracing their clown-selves," she adds.

Clown's Labyrinth is a lighter approach to *Stories We Tell Ourselves*, also produced by Sahiba which dealt with the same issues of heartache and self acceptance.

Both pieces were devised works, she says. "At a workshop participants are given a brief to explore various emotions. Then, we go through a process of creative writing. They are then rewritten from a perspective of what will work on stage. We break it down into abstract individual lines, and then add choreography and visuals," she adds.

She explains how one person's role of being the care giver in a relationship stemmed from their partner's trauma from past hurts. "We wrote that realisation into a piece where he understands it is not his fault, but that of the men before him. It was surprising to see how it resonated with audiences."

Clown's Labyrinth *will be staged at Bangalore International Center on May 7 at 7pm. Tickets available on Skillbox.com*

Things they didn't teach

The Kannada movie, *Out of Syllabus* focusses on life and relationships

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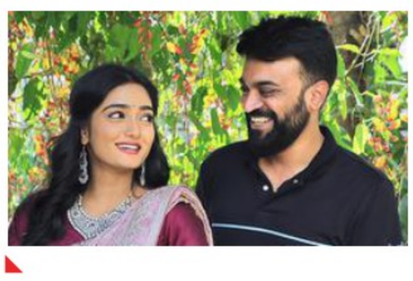


All rounder Pradeep in a still from the film. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Pradeep Doddaiah's teaser for his yet-to-release film *Out Of Syllabus* was recently launched. It grabbed eyeballs on account of the recent news about certain topics being deleted from NCERT textbooks. Pradeep, however, says his film has nothing to with schools or textbooks.

Instead, he explains, the film talks about life and relationships, topics that have never been included in our syllabus or taught in schools and colleges. "We are taught to excel in studies, score high, but when it comes to life and its challenges, we are neither equipped with degrees, nor given a manual that we can refer to."

Pradeep started off with stand-up comedy shows with the Kannada group, Lolbagh. "It began with writing for my stand-up act and gradually I ventured into writing scripts, screenplays and dialogues for Kannada films."

The 35-year-old influencer has a popular YouTube channel, *Pakkad Mane Uncle*, and has been invited by various institutes to give motivational talks. "I speak about self-confidence, body language and so on. That gave me the idea to make a film on these things and *Out of Syllabus* came to be."

Pradeep, who has worked with directors such as Simple Suni and Pawan Wodeyar, says, "I always tried to spot the difference between front and back-benchers. There is something unique about everyone, specifically when it comes to relationships, which inspired the title of the film."

For *Out Of Syllabus* Pradeep dons the role of writer, director, choreographer (he choreographs one song in the film), costume director and lead actor!

It also stars Achyuth Kumar (*KGF* and *Kantaara*) and Hritika Srinivas as the female lead and is produced by Ad6 Entertainment.

STEPOUT

Global tunes

Chirag Katti and Friends will present Indian classical and world music. The evening will feature Chirag (sitar), Avdhoot Phadke (flute), Ashish Raghwani (tabla), Shikharnaad Qureshi (djembe and drums) and Shivahari Ranade (keyboard).
At Windmills on May 5 and 6, 9.30pm onwards. Tickets on https://windmills-india.com/#music

Trust issues

Trust Me, it's a Forward! is a commissioned work by Max Mueller Bhavan under the aegis of Goethe-Institut's Kultursymposium Weimar 2023. It will be an interactive game by KathaSiyah. Entry is free but registration is a must. Go to goethe.de/bangalore
On May 6 and 7, 11.30am and 4pm at Bangalore International Centre.

Award for scholar

Well-known scholar Damal Ramakrishnan was recently honoured with the 'Narayaneeya Pravachana Tilakam' award in Guruvayur. Mallikesari Parameswaran Namboothri and Dinesan Namboothri of Guruvayur Devaswom Board gave away the award. Damal Ramakrishnan also performed a week-long discourse in Guruvayur.

Now, two roadshows by Modi in Bengaluru – on Saturday and Sunday

The eight-hour roadshow, earlier scheduled to be conducted in the city on Saturday, to be now split into two days to 'avoid inconvenience to people'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

This weekend, just ahead of elections on May 10, Bengaluru will witness not one roadshow by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, as earlier planned by the BJP, but two – on Saturday as well as Sunday.

The roadshow, earlier scheduled to be held for eight hours on Saturday alone, has now been split into two parts – on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. "This is to prevent inconvenience to the general public if the rally is held for a full day," according BJP leader Shobha Karandlaje.

Reaching out: A file photo of Prime Minister Narendra Modi conducting a roadshow in Bengaluru.

Earlier plan

Mr. Modi was supposed to take up a 36.6-km roadshow on Saturday as per the original plan, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. However, the Prime Minister is learnt to have expressed concern that blocking the routes for such a long time would affect weekend travellers. There have also been evening rains in the city over the last few days. Following this, the party postponed Saturday evening's programme to Sunday morning, now titled "Namma Bengaluru, Namma Hemme" (Our Bengaluru, our pride).

While Saturday's roadshow will start from Kempe Gowda's statue near New Thippasandra and conclude at the war memorial on Brigade Road, Sunday's roadshow will commence from the war memorial on Brigade Road and end near the Sankey Tank in Malleswaram constituency. The two-day roadshows will cover 17 of the 28 Assembly constituencies in Bengaluru city.

Two-day stay

Meanwhile, Mr. Modi will have a night halt in Bengaluru on Friday after addressing public conventions in Ballari and Tumakuru Rural area. After taking part in the roadshow in Bengaluru on Saturday, he will address conventions in Badami and Haveri, before returning to Bengaluru for night halt.

On Sunday too, the Prime Minister will address public conventions in Shivamogga and Nanjangud after completing the Bengaluru roadshow.

Puja at Nanjangud

Mr. Modi will conclude his campaign in Karnataka, after having addressed 18 public conventions and holding five roadshows, by offering a puja to Lord Srikanteshwara at the Nanjangud temple on Sunday, according to BJP MLC Keshavprasad who is coordinating the Prime Minister's rallies.

"With this, the party is trying to link Uttar Kashi (Varanasi) with Dakshina Kashi (Nanjangud) as the Prime Minister represents Varanasi in the Lok Sabha," Mr. Keshavprasad told *The Hindu*. In all, the Prime Minister would have spent 15 days in the poll-bound State from January 14 to May 7.

Meanwhile, the BJP is turning the public convention being addressed by Mr. Modi in Badami on Saturday into a women-centric one as Badami houses the famous Banashankari temple that celebrates the woman deity. "We are trying to ensure participation of 60,000 to 70,000 women in this convention," Mr. Keshavprasad said.

'Nod given by ROs'

Chief Electoral Officer for Karnataka Manoj Kumar Meena on Thursday said permission for Mr. Modi's roadshows had been given by the Returning Officers (ROs) concerned after taking the required no-objection certificates from traffic police, Fire Services, and other departments involved. He was replying to a query on the traffic inconvenience that the roadshows can cause.

NEET students worried about impact of roadshow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test is scheduled to be held from 2 p.m. on Sunday

With around 1.9 lakh students from the State writing the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) on Sunday, many of whom are from Bengaluru, there is concern about how they will reach their exam centres amid Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow in the city on the same day.

The examination is scheduled between 2 p.m. and 5.20 p.m. Owing to various checks before the exam, candidates are usually advised to reach the centre an hour before the commencement of the exam. If restrictions on traffic movement are imposed during the morning hours, their commute to the centre will become difficult while also making the planning process (to reach) more complicated.

Mr. Modi's roadshow is between 10 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. However, the BJP said it was interacting with the police and other officials to ensure that the show would not cause inconvenience to students, according to party's co-in-charge for Karnataka polls Annamalai.

"We are working out ways to prevent inconvenience to NEET students by taking into account that the students will have to travel a long distance from their houses to reach the examination centres. Union HRD Minister Dharmendra Pradhan himself is coordinating these efforts," Mr. Annamalai told *The Hindu*.

Shivarajkumar campaigns for Siddaramaiah in Varuna

With the star: Congress leader Siddaramaiah on a campaign tour with actor Shivarajkumar at Maralur in Varuna constituency on Thursday. M.A. SRIRAM

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Film actor Shivarajkumar on Thursday campaigned for Congress leader and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in Varuna constituency amid a large crowd who gathered to watch Kannada film stars hitting the campaign in the high-profile constituency.

As Mr. Siddaramaiah, accompanied by Mr. Shivarajkumar, reached Maralur village from Rampura, a large number of supporters greeted them. A group of youth, standing on an earthmover, showered flowers on them amid loud slogans in praise of Mr. Siddaramaiah.

Geetha Shivarajkumar also joined her husband to campaign for Mr. Siddaramaiah.

Women standing atop the buildings were seen eagerly greeting Mr. Shivarajkumar in many villages. He hummed two songs to entertain the crowds: a song from Dr. Rajkumar-starrer *Mayura - Naaniruvude Ninagagi...* and *Mylapura Mylari* from his film *Mylari*, even as his fans cheered the popular actor.

On reaching Tandavapura on the Mysuru-Ooty highway near Nanjangud, Mr. Shivarajkumar, who addressed the gathering, appealed for electing Mr. Siddaramaiah, with Varuna being his home constituency. He made an appeal for the former CM's big victory. "You all know the party symbol and your vote should go to him (Mr. Siddaramaiah)," the actor said.

The Congress also roped in actors Ramya (Divya Spandana) and Nishvika Naidu, of *Guru Shishyaru* fame, on Thursday.

Mr. Siddaramaiah's campaign on Friday will include Duniya Viyay and Yogesh, to counter which the BJP has plans to bring in Sudeep to the region.

Congress complains to EC against PM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Congress has complained to the Election Commission demanding appropriate orders refraining Prime Minister Narendra Modi from using the names of Hindu gods/goddesses in election rallies to seek votes. The party has also filed a complaint against the former Minister K.S. Eshwarappa, who allegedly burnt the Congress manifesto.

In the complaint, filed by a group of KPCC members, led by KPCC legal cell president S.A. Ahmed, the party has said votes cannot be sought on the basis of caste and religion. "However, the Prime Minister used the names of Hindu deities in his election rally. In the context of the Bajrang Dal ban raised by the Opposition party, the Prime Minister has appealed to people to press the EVM button by saying 'Jai Bajrangbali.' This is a clear violation of the Election Code of Conduct. Also, the Prime Minister is misusing his constitutional post and public money for election campaign rallies. Therefore, the Prime Minister should be refrained from making statements leading to the provocation of people thus resulting in breach of public peace," stated the complaint.

Manoj Kumar Meena, CEO for Karnataka, said, "We will examine the complaint and take necessary action as per law."

If Bajrang Dal acts lawfully, it should not fear ban: Moily

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

'The Congress has made the assurance based on the recent apex court's decision'

Senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister M. Veerappa Moily said on Thursday that if the Bajrang Dal keeps its activities within the ambit of law, it should not fear being banned.

Responding to questions on the reference to the possibility of banning the Bajrang Dal in the Congress manifesto, Mr. Moily said the assurance was made as per the recent apex court's decision. The Supreme Court has asked the government to take action against individuals and organisations which create fear and indulge in hate crimes and activities that divide society. "The essence of this judgment is reflected in the assurance," he said.

Chanting of *chalisa*

The statement came amid stir by Bajrang Dal activists in parts of Karnataka where they chanted 'Hanuman Chalisa' to protest against the Congress manifesto. BJP leader and former Minister K.S. Eshwarappa, at Shivamogga, burnt a copy of the Congress manifesto.

At a press meet, Mr. Moily said there was a well-laid down procedure for banning an organisation. "If the Bajrang Dal does not involve in illegal activities, it should not fear about getting banned," he said.

Asked whether the particular assurance would be a hindrance to the Congress following stiff opposition from the BJP, Mr. Moily said, "People are wise. They will take a judicious decision."

On Wednesday, Mr. Moily told reporters in Udupi and Byndoor that there was no specific proposal before the party to ban the Bajrang Dal. In fact, banning organisations comes under the realm of the Central government and not the State government, he said.

I-T search at residence of Cong. leader Vinay Kulkarni's aide

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

With just five more days left for polling in the Assembly elections in the State, Income Tax sleuths knocked on the doors of a close aide of the former Minister Vinay Kulkarni in Dharwad on Thursday, resulting in strong reactions from the Congress camp.

Mr. Kulkarni is contesting from Dharwad Assembly constituency on Congress ticket.

A team of eight officials from the I-T Department conducted a search at the residence of businessman and Mr. Kulkarni's aide Prashanth Kekare at Krishi Park in Saptapur Extension in Dharwad.

When the team arrived at his residence, Mr. Kekare was with Mr. Kulkarni in Kittur and he returned to Dharwad in half an hour. On his arrival, the sleuths entered his house and began the search operation.

On getting information, several Congress workers gathered at the Kekare residence. Mr. Kekare told presspersons that there was nothing new in the I-T search. "During every election such I-T raids are conducted deliberately. This time also it has been conducted as expected," he said.

BJP hopes to divide Vokkaliga votes in this stronghold of KPCC chief

KEY CONSTITUENCY

Nagesh Prabhu
KANAKAPURA

Kanakapura Assembly constituency, nestled amid rocky terrain, is the mighty fortress of the Congress. KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar, a seven-time MLA, has been elected three times from this constituency, located on the outskirts of Bengaluru.

To break the political stronghold of Mr. Shivakumar, the BJP has this time fielded Revenue Minister R. Ashok, six-time MLA, and former Deputy Chief Minister, who also belongs to the Vokkaliga community.

Challenge for Ashok

The BJP seems to have thrown a challenge to Mr. Ashok by asking him to contest from Kanakapura and Padmanabhanagar constituencies. It is a challenge to him to retain his seat in Padmanabhanagar and prove his popularity in the Vokkaliga-dominated Kanakapura too.

The task before Mr. Ashok seems to be to break the dominance of the Congress by dividing the Vokkaliga vote bank, if not a victory in Kanakapura. BJP candidates had not secured more than 7,000 votes in the constituency in the last two Assembly elections. The JD(S) has nominated B. Nagaraju, also a Vokkagaliga.

Mr. Ashok has visited the constituency only once after he filed his nomination. "There are no BJP workers here. The BJP is making Mr. Ashok a scapegoat in this election," said K.N. Venkatesh, former Kanakapura CMC president.

Wife steps in

As Mr. Shivakumar has been campaigning in other constituencies, his wife, Usha Shivakumar, is involved in a door-to-door campaign and distributing pamphlets. During an interview with *The Hindu*, she said, "I am campaigning on behalf of my husband. We are informing voters of the development work done here. The response is very good. They are welcoming me with love and affection."

During the day-long tour in the constituency, *The Hindu* spoke to many people across castes and communities, many of whom referred to Mr. Shivakumar as "DK Saheb" and said that others do not stand a chance.

The constituency was once a stronghold of the JD (S). Ramakrishna Hegde contested a byelection from this constituency when he became the Chief Minister in 1983. The veteran Janata Parivar leader P.G.R. Sindhia has won six times from Kanakapura.

"An adjustment politics" between family members of Mr. Shivakumar and JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy led to the decline of the JD(S) vote bank in the constituency," said a BJP leader on the condition of anonymity.

During Mr. Shivakumar's term, the constituency saw development works over the years in terms of school buildings, power stations, roads, and taluk panchayat buildings. "Many basic facilities have been provided. But we face the problem of unemployment. A large number of people migrate to Bengaluru for jobs," said Basavaraj, a drama teacher.

Problem of open drains

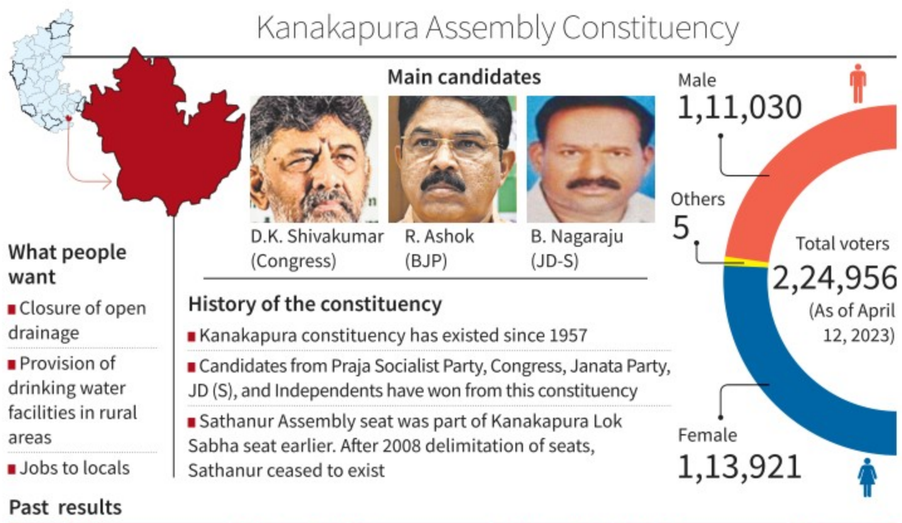
In the Kanakapura town, women complained about the existence of open drains in front of their houses. During the Congress campaign, they complained that the open drainage system leads to a foul smell and during the rainy season these drains overflow and pollute the surroundings.

In rural areas, water pipes were laid under the Jal Jeevan Mission but residents have not yet been provided drinking water. "We still depend on our own wells," said Guruvaiah, who runs a petty shop at Bekuppe Circle.

Aware of more development works to be done in the constituency, the party's pamphlet says: "*Madida kelasa sakashtu, madabekadaddu bahalashtu*" (Many works have been done, more works are to be done).

Besides dominant Vokkaligas who constitute nearly a lakh voters, as per estimates, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribe, and other backward caste communities such as Kurubas, Kumbaras, Ganigas, Gollas, and Agasas form a sizable population.

Given its proximity to Bengaluru, the real estate business has increased land prices in the region. The Mekedatu project proposed for catering to the drinking water needs of Bengaluru, Arkavati river, Chunchi waterfall, and Sangam, the confluence of the Arkavati and Cauvery, come under the Kanakapura constituency.



Past results

	Winner	Votes polled Vote share	Runner-up	Votes polled Vote share	Third place	Votes polled Vote share
2018	D.K. Shivakumar (Congress)	1,27,552 68.52%	Narayana Gowda (JD-S)	47,643 25.59%	Nandini Gowda (BJP)	6,273 3.37%
2013	D.K. Shivakumar (Congress)	1,00,007 56.77%	P.G.R. Sindhia (JD-S)	68,583 38.93%	B. Nagaraju (BJP)	1,807 1.03%

Mridangam player Karaikudi Mani, aged 77, no more

B. Kolappan
CHENNAI

Karaikudi R. Mani

Karaikudi R. Mani, who dominated the Carnatic music world for more than half a century as a mridangam player and popularised the south Indian percussion instruments across the globe through his troupe Sruthilaya, died, aged 77, in Chennai on Thursday. Mr. Mani and his troupe had collaborated with American singer Paul Simon and one could listen to his *konnakol* in the album Dazzling Blue.

A bachelor, Mr. Mani had trained scores of students, played for yesteryear doyens of Carnatic music, including M.S. Subbulakshmi, D.K. Pattammal, M.L. Vasanthakumari, Madurai Somu, T.M. Thiagarajan, D.K. Jayaraman and Lalgudi Jayaraman, as well as present-day stars including Sanjay Subramanian, T.M. Krishna and Kunnakudi Balamuralikrishna.

Mr. Mani's skill on the mridangam embellished whole concerts, artistes said. His accompaniment to the devotional songs of Pithukuli Murugadoss bears testimony to his prodigious talent. He was also well-versed in ragas and keerthanas. "Karaikudi Mani was the Rock Star of the Karnatic music," vocalist T.M. Krishna tweeted.

"The moment he stuck the mridangam, we gasped in awe! His every thought, rhythmic pattern, innovation and response was filled with the spirit of discovery. As a person, he was always brutally frank and honest. We made music together, laughed and on occasions disagreed. Today, I have lost a senior and a collaborator with whom, I shared a special musical bond," Mr. Krishna adds.

First award at 18

Mr. Mani first learnt music from Karaikudi Ranga Iyengar and subsequently from Harihara Sharma, the father of famous ghatam exponent Vikku Vinayagaram; the pair of them (Vikku and Mani) went on to collaborate with many Western percussionists. He had further tutelage from K.M. Vaidyanathan as well. He received his first award when he was 18, in 1963, at national level from S. Radhakrishnan, the President of India. In 1998 he won the "Sangeet Natak Academy" National Award.

After performing as an accompanying artist, in 1984, he launched Sruthilaya, a troupe venturing out to do experiments. Sruthilaya consists of top ranking artists in percussion instruments, with mridangam in the forefront.

JD(S) tries to woo back Muslims, appeals for smart voting

Kumaraswamy has appealed to Muslim voters on multiple occasions to vote for JD(S) where the party is strong, and to vote for Congress where the Congress is strong

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

A file photo of former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy and JD(S) Karnataka unit president C.M. Ibrahim.

The Janata Dal (Secular), which has been banking heavily on the Vokkaliga votes in Old Mysuru region, is expecting a boost to its vote share from the Muslim community in the 2023Assembly elections.

While the party believed that the Muslim community consolidated in favour of the Congress, thus denting its chances in a number of seats in the 2018 elections, after Rahul Gandhi's remark of JD(S) being the 'B team' of BJP, the regional party is seeking support of Muslims in constituencies where it fancies a fair chance of winning. Interestingly, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called JD(S) the 'B team' of Congress, in an apparent bid to split votes.

Muslims constitute about 14% of the total electorate, and their turnout in elections is estimated to be more than 80%. The party's popular face and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy has, in fact, appealed to Muslim voters on multiple occasions to vote for JD(S) where the party is strong, and to vote for Congress where the Congress is strong.

"This kind of smart voting by the community will help keep the BJP at bay. Otherwise, there would be consolidation of Muslim votes in favour of Congress everywhere," sources said.

In the past, Muslims had supported the JD(S), especially after they were given OBC quota when H.D. Deve Gowda was the CM, but sentiments towards the party turned negative after its 20-month alliance with the BJP in 2005-06, and now, Rahul Gandhi's remarks further alienated Muslims from the JD(S).

Incidentally, JD(S) has promised to restore reservation for Muslims if voted to power. "The party has changed its strategy in its approach towards Muslims. If the party's State leadership is speaking to the Muslim clergy, the party's candidates have been told to approach Muslims at the constituency level based on local issues," party MLC K.A. Thippeswamy told *The Hindu*.

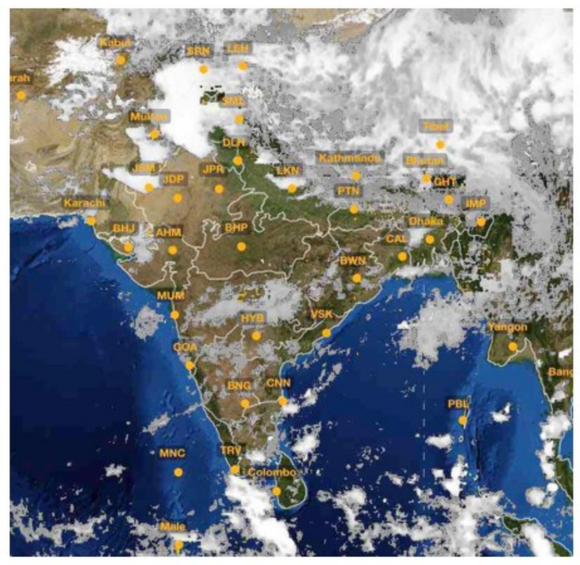
In 2018, the JD(S) won 37 seats. The party lost 36 seats where it fancied its chances with margins ranging from 200 votes to 8,000 votes. In 10 seats, the margin of loss was between 200 votes and 3,000 votes. The party assessed these close defeats as a result of being shunned by Muslims. This time around, as part of its larger Muslim outreach, the JD(S) has appointed C.M. Ibrahim as president of the State unit, and Mr. Kumaraswamy has taken a strong position against the BJP's polarisation tactics using issues such as hijab, halal and anti-cow slaughter bill. He has criticised the BJP government for removing the 4% reservation quota for Muslims in the OBC category. The party has given tickets to 23 Muslim candidates, who constitute around 11% of 211 candidates it has fielded in this election. The party believes that these moves have 'calmed' the sentiments of the community.

In the run up to the elections, JD(S) declined an alliance with Asaduddin Owaisi-led All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) fearing such an alliance would damage the party's standing and prospects.

"The AIMIM workers would have helped transfer some votes in Kalyan Karnataka region. However, the party believes it would have set the wrong optics when things are improving," according to a party leader.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty wind likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Odisha, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	0.4	33.8	23.5	Kozhikode	—	36.2	27.0
Ahmedabad	—	38.6	26.0	Kurnool	0.6	36.6	25.1
Aizawl	—	25.0	18.6	Lucknow	12.7	32.1	19.2
Allahabad	—	32.0	20.0	Madurai	6.6	34.6	24.4
Bengaluru	13.6	30.0	21.2	Mangaluru	—	34.3	24.4
Bhopal	—	—	21.0	Mumbai	—	32.4	25.4
Bhubaneswar	—	33.3	23.0	Mysuru	—	35.1	22.4
Chandigarh	9	31.5	17.3	New Delhi	30	32.1	15.8
Chennai	—	34.1	26.2	Patna	—	33.0	23.1
Coimbatore	14	33.9	24.4	Port Blair	—	33.9	27.0
Dehradun	14	28.6	15.0	Puducherry	1.3	33.3	24.9
Gangtok	6	16.6	12.7	Pune	1.6	35.0	21.2
Goa	—	34.3	24.9	Raipur	—	35.1	22.8
Guwahati	7	31.6	22.1	Ranchi	—	33.2	21.6
Hubballi	—	36.0	21.0	Shillong	13	21.8	14.5
Hyderabad	—	32.7	22.8	Shimla	16	17.0	8.6
Imphal	—	28.6	20.6	Srinagar	1	18.7	10.3
Jaipur	3	32.6	19.8	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.2	25.9
Kochi	—	32.8	26.6	Tiruchi	11	35.7	24.6
Kohima	4	19.0	14.4	Vijayawada	0.2	33.6	25.8
Kolkata	1	34.0	25.0	Visakhapatnam	8.2	32.4	25.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.39	..90	.42	67	...109	
Bengaluru	...8	..55	.73	29	65	
Chennai	...3	109	108	64	58	
Delhi	.26	..83	.86	...150	...121	
Hyderabad	...8	8	.38	59	97	
Kolkata	.30	..10	.20	48	47	
Lucknow	...9	..99	.36	27	33	
Mumbai	...3	..89	115	51	61	
Pune	123	186	113	94	80	
Visakhapatnam	.18	..40	.11	23	44	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Byrnihat, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 324 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Gig workers seek 'welfare levy' on apps, aggregators

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Given Telangana Minister for Information Technology K.T. Rama Rao's recent comments about securing the livelihoods of gig workers, the Telangana Gig and Platform Workers' Union suggested that a levy be added per transaction in the State and these funds then be used to provide social security to those employed in this sector.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, president of the union, Telangana Gig and Platform Workers' Union Shaik Salauddin said, "There should be a levy charged on each transaction for those working with aggregators and apps, irrespective of whether they are working as drivers or delivery personnel or skilled workers. These funds should go towards a board that would provide social security of workers."

Telangana CM inaugurates BRS central office in Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president and Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao inaugurated the central office of the party at Vasant Vihar in Delhi on Thursday.

The building has four floors with Mr. Rao's chambers and a conference hall occupying the first floor. It has 20 rooms, including two suites.

ODISHA FORESTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
SFTRI Campus, At/Po-Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar-751 029
Ph: 0674-2386016, website: http://www.ofsdp.org

RFP No: 01/2023 Date: 08.05.2023

ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) ON ACCRUAL AND TRADING OF CARBON CREDITS FROM PROJECTS UNDER ODISHA FORESTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY (OFSDS)

Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society (OFSDS) invites proposals for engaging a Consultant for Accrual and Trading of Carbon Credits from Projects under Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society (OFSDS). The proposals are invited in the prescribed format from the interested and experienced Organizations/ Consortiums/ Entrepreneurs and Institutions from Government and Non- Government Sector. The RFP may be downloaded from the website **www.ofsds.in**

The Proposal duly completed in the prescribed forms and formats along with all supporting documents as per instructions indicated the RFP Document must reach by Speed Post / Registered Post / Courier only at Project Management Unit, OFSDS, latest by 12th June, 2023, 11.00 hrs IST.

Deputy Project Director (A&F)
OFSDS

CAD-455 OIPR-08149/11/0001/2324

All India Institute of Medical Sciences,Raipur
An Autonomous Institute Under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GoI

No./RC/NF-R/A/2023/937 Date : 27.04.2023

Group 'A' Recruitment

AIIMS, Raipur invites online applications from the Indian nationals for the following positions on **Direct Recruitment Basis:**

Group 'A': Registrar - (**01**- UR, Level-12*), **Deputy Medical Superintendent -** (**06**-UR-05, OBC-01, Level-11* + NPA), **Blood Transfusion Officer -** (**01 -** UR, Level-11* + NPA), (* As per 7th CPC).

Last date of receipt of online application is **28.05.2023.**

The detailed essential qualification, experience, terms and conditions, notifications, amendments, corrigendum etc. related to this advertisement is available on the website **www.aiimsraipur.edu.in.**

- Dy. Director (Admin.)

COAL INDIA LIMITED
(A Maharatna Company)

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd **www.coalindia.in** / respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Procurement Portal **htttps://eprocure.gov.in**. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**".

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client intends to purchase the property more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder from the Sri.Venkatappa, the present owner who has represented that he has a clear and marketable title to the same. Any person/s, financial institutions and statutory authorities who claims any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the aforesaid transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within **Ten (10) days** hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my clients would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owners thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural dry land measuring an extent of about 0.21.08 guntas comprised in Sy.No.140/1 (Old Sy.No.140) of Harobande Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District and bounded on the:

East by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.140/2
West by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.140/3
North by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.139
South by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.140/3

Sd/- **VIJAY.K**, Advocate
No.48, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main Road,
Vyalikaval, Bangalore-560003
MOB No. 9980018455
Email - vijaykupur@yahoo.com
Bangalore, Date:04/05/2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client intends to purchase the property more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder from the Smt.Lakshmamma and others, the present owners who have represented that they have a clear and marketable title to the same. Any person/s, financial institutions and statutory authorities who claims any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the aforesaid transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within **Ten (10) days** hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my clients would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owners thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural dry land measuring an extent of about 1 Acre 24 guntas comprised in Sy.No.142/3 of Harobande Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District and bounded on the:

East by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.142/4
West by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.142/2
North by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.143
South by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.142/5 and 142/7

Sd/- **VIJAY.K**, Advocate
No.48, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main Road,
Vyalikaval, Bangalore-560003
MOB No. 9980018455
Email - vijaykupur@yahoo.com
Bangalore, Date : 04/05/2023

IN THE HON'BLE COURT OF THE III ADDITIONAL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE, BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT, AT BENGALURU
P & SC No. 9 of 2023

BETWEEN: 1. Mrs. Geeta Kumar, Daughter of Late Mr. Jitendra Kumar, Wife of Mr. Harsh Kumar, Aged about 60 years, Residing at 18051, ATS Greens Paradiso, Sector Chi-4, Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201310 Represented herein by her General Power of Attorney Holder, Mr. Sanjay Seth

2. Mr. Sanjay Seth, Son of Late Mr. Jitendra Kumar, Aged about 55 years, Residing at, A10, Sterling Villa Grande, Seegehalli, Whitefield - Hoskote Road, Whitefield, Bengaluru - 560066 ... **PETITIONERS**

AND: -Nil- ... **RESPONDENTS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Petitioners have instituted the above petition under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, seeking for grant of a certificate of succession under the Indian Succession Act, 1925 in favour of the Petitioner No. 2 herein, with respect to movable properties (morefully described below as **"Schedule Property"**) held by their parents, Late Mr. Jitendra Kumar and Late Mrs. Neera Kumar. The public at large are hereby notified by way of this notice that if any person(s) have any objections in granting the certificate of succession are hereby summoned to appear before this Court, in person or through a pleader on **June 02nd, 2023 at 11:00 AM** to answer the same, filing which the certificate of succession will be granted to the Petitioner No. 2 above-named.

SCHEDULE
(Description of the movable properties)

Sl. No.	Name(s) of the Account Holder(s)	Particulars of the Account/ Fixed Deposit	Nature of the Account	Bank and Branch	Nominee(s)
1.	Mrs. Neera Kumar and Mr. Jitendra Kumar	2211148335	Fixed deposit	Kotak Mahindra Bank, D-960 New Friends Colony, Near Mata Ka Mandir, New Delhi 110065	No nominee mentioned
2.	Mr. Jitendra Kumar and Mrs. Neera Kumar	7626875210	Fixed deposit	Kotak Mahindra Bank, D-960 New Friends Colony, Near Mata Ka Mandir, New Delhi 110065	No nominee mentioned
3.	Mr. Jitendra Kumar and Mrs. Neera Kumar	7626930103	Fixed deposit	Kotak Mahindra Bank, D-960 New Friends Colony, Near Mata Ka Mandir, New Delhi 110065	No nominee mentioned
4.	Mrs. Neera Kumar and Mr. Jitendra Kumar	1509000100 075750	Savings Bank Account	Punjab National Bank, Indiranagar 1st Stage, 2nd Main Road, Indira Nagar II Stage, Hoysala Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560038	No nominee mentioned

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this the 1st day of April, 2023.

By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Senior Civil Judge Court, Bengaluru Rural District, Bengaluru.

Address for service: ***Mr. Manu Kulkarni***
Poovayya & Co.
Advocates & Solicitors
The Estate, Level Four No. 121, Dickenson Road, Bengaluru – 560 042

ODISHA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
19, Dr. P.K. Parija Road, Cuttack -753001

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
No. 4033 / PSC Dt. 04/05/2023

Odisha Public Service Commission invites proposals in prescribed format in sealed cover from reputed bidders in respect of the **"Request for Proposal (RFP) To Build, Own, Operate and Transfer the Online Recruitment Management System (ORMS)".** For details, the bidders are requested to visit website of the Commission www.opsc.gov.in. The last date for receipt of pre-bid queries is **08.05.2023, 05.00PM** & for final proposals the date is **25.05.2023, 02.00PM.** OPSC reserves the right to accept/reject any/all proposals/bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- Secretary

D-37 OIPR-12002/11/0026/2324

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that my client has intended to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned below from the owners MR. LANCELOT D'SOUZA, Aged about 72 years, Son of late Staney D'Souza,Residing at No. 219, Chikkathogur Road, Pragathi Nagar, Poonum Femitur, Hosur Road, Chikkathogur, Bengaluru - 560 100 Aadhaar No. 7222 3868 4120 & MISS. MATILDA D'SOUZA, Aged about 66 years, Daughter of Staney D'Souza Residing at No. 50, 5th Cross, 8th B Main Road, Jakkasandra Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034. Aadhaar No. 5736 1546 3949 ("the Owners") with respect to the land together with 50, BBMP PID No. 68-5-50, situated at 5th Cross, 8th B Main Road, Jakkasandra Block, Koramangala Extension, Bengaluru Urban District -560 034, and presently within the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike ("BBMP") Ward No.151, measuring East to West: 9.00 Meters and North to South: 12.60 Meters totally 113.04 Square Meters, together with building thereon of RCC roofing comprising of Ground, First & Second Floor measuring 1800 Square feet, (more fully described in the schedule below and hereinafter referred to as the("Schedule Property").

Any persons including an individual, a Hindu Undivided Family, a company, banks, financial institution(s), non- banking financial institution(s), a firm, an association of persons or a body of individuals whether incorporated or not, lenders and/or creditors having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of Schedule Property or any part or portion thereof by way of sale, memorandum of understanding, exchange, mortgage, pledge, charge, gift, trust, inheritance, succession, possession, lease, tenancy, maintenance easement, license, bequeath, share, assignment, lien, attachment, development rights, right of way, lispendens, reservation, agreement, FSI consumption, development rights, or any liability or commitment or otherwise or demand of any nature whatsoever are hereby requested to inform the same in writing, supported with the documents, to the undersigned address within a period of Fourteen (14) days from the date of the publication of this notice, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned.

Schedule Property

All that piece and parcel of the land together with 50, BBMP PID No. 68-5-50, situated at 5th Cross, 8th B Main Road, Jakkasandra Block, Koramangala Extension, Bengaluru Urban District -560 034, and presently within the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike ("BBMP") Ward No.151, measuring East to West: 9.00 Meters and North to South: 12.60 Meters totally 113.04 Square Meters, together with building thereon of RCC roofing comprising of Ground, First & Second Floor measuring 1800 Square feet,& bounded by **East By**: Road. **West By**: Site No.49. **North By** :Road, **South By:** Site No.63.

Dated this, the **05th day of May, 2023**

Manjunatha Reddy. R, Advocate
No.1932, "Srigandha" 15th A Cross, 9th Main Road, Judicial layout, GKVK Post, Bangalore – 560 065. Email: vanyaassociates@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients are intending to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its owners viz., **Smt. Gowramma W/o Late Sri Thimmaiah** & others. If anybody is having any objection, claim, interest, dispute for the intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with document proof substantiating his/her/their objections/claims/details of dispute/s within Seven(7) days from the date of this publication, failing which, my clients will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owner/s as if there are no third party claims/objections/disputes in respect of the Schedule Property and thereafter no claims/objections/disputes will be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Sy.No.56/5 measuring 40 Guntas, situated at Kammasandra Agrahara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore and is bounded as follows:

East by: Road;
West by: Land of Eramaddappa & Venkateshappa;
North by: Sy.No.56/6;
South by: Sy.No.56/3.

ROOPA SHETTY, Advocate
Lex Situs, No.810,
'BILWAPRIYA PLATINA', 2nd Floor, 27th Main Road, HSR Layout, Sector 1, Bangalore - 560102.Phone: 080-22583563,
Mobile No.9902026199
Email: info@lexsitus.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client intends to purchase the property more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder from Mr.Shaik Umar, the present owner who has represented that he has a clear and marketable title to the same. Any person/s, financial institutions and statutory authorities who claims any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the aforesaid transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within **Ten (10) days** hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my clients would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owners thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO – I : All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural dry land measuring an extent of about 30 guntas comprised in Sy.No.141/3A of Harobande Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District and bounded on the:

East by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.141/4 and 141/6
West by :Lands comprised in Sy.No.142/4
North by: Lands comprised in Sy.Nos. 141/2 and 144/1
South by : Lands comprised in Sy.No. 141/3B

ITEM NO – II : All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural dry land measuring an extent of about 35 guntas comprised in Sy.No.141/3B of Harobande Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District and bounded on the:

East by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.141/7 and 141/8
West by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.142/4
North by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.141/3A
South by : Village Boundary of Gerahalli Village and Lands comprised in Sy.No.101

ITEM NO – III : All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural dry land measuring an extent of about 15 guntas comprised in Sy.No.141/7 of Harobande Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District and bounded on the:

East by : Lands comprised in Sy.Nos.140/5 and 258
West by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.141/3B
North by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.141/6
South by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.141/8

Sd/- **VIJAY.K**, Advocate
No.48, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main Road,
Vyalikaval, Bangalore-560003
MOB No. 9980018455
Email - vijaykupur@yahoo.com
Bangalore, Date : 04/05/2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that our clients are intending to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its owner **Mrs. Vasanthi Maniam, W/o. Mr.V.S. Maniam,** Aged about 63 years, Residing at #823, Sector 10, Panchkula, Haryana - 134109. If any person/s or Institution, Authority, etc., have got any right, title, claim and interest of whatsoever in nature on the Schedule Property, are hereby required to communicate the same along with supporting documents to me at my office within **TEN (10) days** from this day. Otherwise, the Sale Transaction will be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claim or interest, which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Vacant Residential Site bearing Premises No.13 and 14, BBMP E-Aasthi Khatha PID No.83-84-177/4, HASB Khatha No.177/4, situated at Byrasandra Village, KR Puram Hobli, erstwhile Bangalore South Taluk, now Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, earlier under the jurisdiction of HA Sanitary Board (HASB), now under the jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and measuring East to West: 40 feet and North to South: 40 Feet, in all measuring 1600 Sq.Feet and bounded on the: **East by:** Property bearing Premises No.17, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Property bearing Premises No.12, **South by:** C.V.Raman Nagar.

MR. N. RAMALINGA REDDY, M.A., LLB,
Advocate, No.91/1, II Floor,
Versova Space, Kaggadasapura Main Road,
CV Raman Nagar, Bangalore – 560093.
M: +91 - 9945576796 / 8019926164.

TAMILNADU MINERALS LIMITED
No.31, Kamarajar Salai, Chepauk, Chennai - 600 005. Phone No.28862018, 28511972

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER WITH FORWARD BIDDING

1	Description	Sale of dimensional black and colour granite blocks from certain quarries of TAMIN, Tamil Nadu
2	Tender No. & date Tender ID	**649/EX-1/2023, Dated: 02.05.2023 1.2023_TNMIN_310038_1, 2.2023_TNMIN_310076_1 3.2023_TNMIN_310082_1, 4.2023_TNMIN_310111_1 5.2023_TNMIN_310087_1, 6.2023_TNMIN_310207_1 7.2023_TNMIN_310220_1, 4.2023_TNMIN_310241_1**
3	Bid submission end date through e-tendering portal	**05.06.2023 upto 16.00 hrs.**
4	Technical bid opening date	**06.06.2023 at 16.00 hrs.**
5	Tender form Fee & EMD	Rs.2,000/- or equivalent USD 25 (Non-refundable) Rs.1,18,000/- or equivalent USD1485 per quarry

Note: Further details please visit Tamilnadu e-tendering portal:
https://tntenders.gov.in / www.tamingranites.com

DIPR/2438/TENDER/2023 GENERAL MANAGER(FINANCE)

Buoyancy check

Services sector's resilience may be tested as global demand cools

India's services sector seems to have had a great start to the financial year, if one were to go purely by the findings of the S&P Global Services PMI Business Activity Index. Based on surveys of around 400 firms across segments such as consumer services, finance and communications, the index reading stood at 62 in April – the highest seasonally adjusted figure in 153 months or nearly 13 years. A reading of over 50 on the index, constructed since 2005, indicates an expansion in activity levels relative to the previous month. To put the April number in perspective, the average PMI reading for services through 2022-23 was around 57.3. The increasing importance of the services economy to India's total output and job creation does not need to be reiterated much. As per the second advance national income estimates for 2022-23, the Gross Value Added (GVA) growth from industry as a whole slipped to 4.1%, with manufacturing tripping to just 1.6% – both of them had grown at around 10% in 2021-22. Services' GVA, on the other hand, is expected to have grown 9.1% during the year, accelerating from 8.4% in the previous year. Along with a pick up from the farm sector, services is expected to lift GVA growth in 2022-23 to 6.7% with GDP rising 7%.

On the trade front, India's services exports are estimated to have hit a record $325 billion in 2022-23, reflecting a growth of almost 28% over the previous year. The strong uptick in such intangible trade and the resultant surplus *vis-à-vis* imports of services have significantly plugged the hole in India's current account deficit caused by a much sharper 40% widening of the goods trade deficit, which is reckoned to have hit $267 billion during the year. Growth in services exports during March had slipped to around 3% from 29% in February. However, as per the April PMI print, along with a surge in fresh demand and output for domestic services, outbound deals also increased at the highest pace in three months. That offers some comfort amid a strengthening global slowdown in major markets for India's IT-dominated services exports. Yet, the flurry of crises in U.S. and European financial institutions, a key clientele for India's tech majors, for instance, remains a worry. That services exports growth could moderate going forward is corroborated by the lower earnings guidance provided by IT companies as well as their extended dithering over on-boarding young recruits. The latter is part of an uncomfortable trend captured within the PMI reading – despite April's boom, job creation has remained negligible and input costs have resurged. Neither augurs well for sustaining domestic demand, which has already taken a hit from high inflation.

Strategic timeout

The convicts in the Bilkis Bano case are using delay as an end

It is disconcerting when a judge is impelled to say that he discerns in the tactics adopted by the convicts in the Bilkis Bano case, an intent to avoid his Bench. The convicts were released last year. Justice K.M. Joseph's remarks that it was more than obvious that there was an attempt to avoid his Bench came in response to requests for adjournments on behalf of some of the convicts claiming they had not yet been served notice of Ms. Bano's petition challenging their release. The requests came on a day when the matter was listed for final hearing. No one can dispute the right of the convicts to be informed of hearings through proper service of notices, but it would be questionable if claims of not being served properly were made with an oblique motive. In the end, the Bench had to adjourn the hearing to July, long after Justice Joseph's last working day later this month. The release of the 11 convicts, who were serving life terms for multiple murders and the gang-rape of women during the Gujarat pogrom of 2002, had raised questions about the remission process. It became known later that the Union government had consented to their release. Justice Joseph had, at an earlier hearing, wanted to see the relevant files to ascertain whether the decision to release them was based on relevant considerations. The files were not produced on the stipulated day, but counsel for the Centre indicated that both governments may seek a review of the order to produce the files. However, in the latest hearing, the Solicitor General has agreed to produce the records.

It is debatable whether the outcome of a case will be different if heard by another Bench, but it is difficult not to see these developments in the backdrop of the influence the convicts seem to have with the incumbent regimes. They also seem to have considerable political support from the ruling parties at the Centre and the State. Their release itself came about as a result of another Supreme Court order which ruled, somewhat intriguingly, that the Gujarat government was the "appropriate government" to consider their case for remission, and that the 1992 remission policy, applicable at the time of their conviction, may be the basis. There is considerable interest in the outcome of this challenge as the question of jurisdiction on Gujarat granting remission – the trial took place in Mumbai and the appeal was heard by the Bombay High Court – and the correctness of the decision to release them prematurely based on a report of a committee that included political nominees have become contentious issues.

And another airline bites the dust

Captain A. (Mohan) Ranganathan

is a former airline instructor pilot and aviation safety adviser. He is also a former member of the Civil Aviation Safety Advisory Council (CASAC), India

The line from the famous song by Queen (Farrokh Bulsara), "Another One Bites the Dust", appears to be the swansong for another airline in India. In the 1990s, an airline with promise, Damania Airways, went bust. This week, the Wadias declared insolvency for their airline, Go First, bringing down the curtains on another airline company. In its wake, we have hundreds of passengers, pilots and cabin crew stranded in various locations, and thousands of employees who have been left in the lurch with a long legal battle ahead of them to salvage what is owed to them. Employees of Kingfisher Airlines and Jet Airways are still struggling to get their dues while their owners and promoters live a life of luxury with zero accountability.

Are airlines and their owners/promoters the only ones to blame for these failures? I would put the blame squarely on the Ministry of Civil Aviation and its puppet, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). The regular chest thumping acts where there are proclamations of India being the 'fastest growing aviation sector' also turn a blind eye to serious deficiencies in safety, the financial security of airlines, oversight audits by the DGCA to assess the financial health of airlines, and last but not the least, the inflated numbers game they play to project exponential growth in the aviation sector.

A story of distress

The last 30 years have seen the failure of Damania Airways, NEPC Airlines, Air Deccan, Air Sahara, Paramount, Kingfisher, Jet Airways and several other smaller airlines in the aviation sector in India.

In 2008, the financial world's collapse resulted in problems for major airlines. The Boeing representative made a statement during the Singapore Airshow in 2009 that India has space for just three airlines and that consolidations and mergers would take place.

Back in India, crony capitalism ensured that the favoured lot were never questioned and banks kept pumping in funds to aid non-performing assets. A DGCA audit of Kingfisher Airlines indicated a clear case of deep financial stress. As in the DGCA's normal procedure, the reports were consigned to the dustbin. There were similar results for Jet Airways before its collapse too. The airline's board was loaded with former Ministry of Civil Aviation and DGCA officials, just to give the reader an example of how airlines in India operate and hoodwink the public. The media helped in dishing out the figures and the numbers handed out to them without due diligence or any cross checks being done.

> The proprietors of Go First declaring insolvency is part of a familiar aviation story in India: of serious deficiencies in the sector

The DGCA's Civil Aviation Requirement for Scheduled Transport Operations clearly spells out the minimum requirement for starting/running an airline: finance, crew numbers, other staff and route projections. Yet, those setting up airlines announce grandiose plans with the blessings of the Ministry and the DGCA, without proven financial security, and without a minimum number of pilots, engineers and cabin crew. Has anyone checked whether the numbers projected and numbers that actually materialised have matched? Has anyone checked why India pays the highest lease charges for aircraft when compared to other countries? Has the DGCA, the so-called regulator, ever taken action against those who make and come up with false projections and numbers? Pleasing the Minister and pandering to the ego of the government is not going to prevent another airline going bust.

After the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic was over, it was obvious that every airline in India was deep in the red. Areas that take a hit for airlines in India include training and safety. Airlines know that as long as their umbilical cord is connected to the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the regulator is a mere facilitator. Has the DGCA done a financial audit of all the airlines in India and has it published its findings?

Warning signals

The number of aircraft that have been mothballed in several airports in India and the number of accidents and serious incidents over the months have not raised a red flag. Passengers have been lucky that more lives have not been lost. This false numbness is likely to be mushrooming shortly.

Leasing companies repossessing aircraft due to non-payment of lease charges and airports requiring cash and carry operations from an airline for airport and fuel charges are all clear indications that the financial health of the airline is in a state of deterioration. Another clear pointer is the cancellation of flights due to "operational reasons".

In simple terms, it means that there is a shortage of crew. Will the DGCA publish the data on flight cancellations because of crew shortage? Will it take the bold step of preventing airlines from acquiring more aircraft until they can show that they have sufficient numbers of crew for continuous scheduled operations without any flight disruptions?

Revamp aviation policy

What is urgently required in Indian aviation is transparency and accountability. This includes not just the airline owners and promoters but also the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the DGCA and the officials concerned. The day is not far off when another favoured and propped up airline is going to lose its wings. Go First is just the new beginning. And it is not going to be the last. A complete revamp of India's civil aviation policy is required. We have seen the charade of Jet Airways 2.0, where some people have skimmed from the top and pulled wool over the eyes of unfortunate employees waiting for their legitimate dues. To begin with, they should enforce a ban on any official of a failed airline from holding managerial posts in another airline. Airlines should also be asked to have a corpus fund locked up to meet the dues of employees and passengers in the event of an airline closing down. The sudden announcement by Go First of operations being put on hold is like the announcement of demonetisation, in 2016. Do people deserve this disservice?

India is a goldmine for tourism. Aviation is a sector that is important to cash in on this. But the way it has been mismanaged and killed makes one wonder whether we can ever reach the potential to become the fastest growing sector. We need professionals with knowledge to run the sector. The way Air India is heading, I worry for another venture. My empathies for J.R.D. Tata. The vision he had for aviation in India is crumbling rapidly.

A boost for science, a wider window to the universe

Sethuraman Panchanathan

is Director, United States National Science Foundation

In the distant universe, black holes merge, supernovae explode, neutron stars collide. Colossal events such as these create cosmic ripples in space-time called gravitational waves. In 2015, the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO for short) observed this phenomenon for the first time, expanding our understanding of the universe around us. Now, the United States National Science Foundation is partnering with top U.S. universities and India's Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology, or RRCAT (a unit of Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India) to launch LIGO-India, a ground-breaking collaboration, fuelled by a $320 million investment from India, that will accelerate discovery and innovation in India and around the world.

Albert Einstein's 1916 general theory of relativity first predicted the phenomenon of gravitational waves. But it took physicists another century to prove Einstein right by observing them directly. Most of the history of astronomy has been accomplished by observing light and the electromagnetic spectrum – everything from radio waves to infrared and visible light to high-energy x-rays and gamma rays – but gravitational waves are fundamentally different; they are ripples in space-time, the fabric of the universe itself.

In 2015, for the first time in human history, physicists observed the gravitational waves emanating from two merging black holes, 1.3 million light years from earth. This Nobel prize-winning breakthrough was accomplished by the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory, known as LIGO, a research initiative that the U.S. National Science Foundation first began investing in the late 1970s.

> The construction of LIGO-India is a leg-up for gravitational wave science and the universal progress of science that transcends borders

More experiment than observatory

LIGO is the world's largest gravitational wave observatory, a scientific collaboration and marvel of engineering that consists of two facilities in the United States, one in the Pacific Northwest at Hanford, Washington, and another near the Gulf of Mexico in Livingston, Louisiana. LIGO uses lasers to detect ripples in space-time through a method called interferometry: as gravitational waves pass by, they cause space itself to stretch and squeeze, which scientists can measure through changes in the beams of the LIGO lasers.

More than an observatory, LIGO is an experiment of pre-eminent scale and complexity. The data LIGO collects have far-reaching implications in many areas of physics. LIGO has provided new clues about merging black holes, the existence of neutron stars and the origin of the universe. It has opened an entirely new way of observing the universe – astronomers have been studying light from the universe for thousands of years, but now we can also "hear" the universe through gravitational waves.

That is why I applaud the recent announcement of the $320 million investment in LIGO-India. Just like LIGO in the U.S. has become a resource for students, researchers, and educators throughout local communities, LIGO-India will create new opportunities in Maharashtra's Hingoli district. Projects such as LIGO-India can create jobs across the technical workforce, unleash new avenues for scientific talent and inspire the next generation of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) leaders.

The benefits of collaboration

By joining the global network, i.e., the two LIGO detectors in the U.S., Virgo in Italy, and the Kamioka Gravitational-wave Detector (KAGRA) in Japan, LIGO-India will push forward the boundaries of what science and technology can achieve and help unlock some of the universe's greatest mysteries.

LIGO-India is a collaboration between the LIGO Laboratory – operated by Caltech and MIT and funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) – and India's RRCAT, the Institute for Plasma Research (IPR), the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), and the Department of Atomic Energy Directorate of Construction, Services and Estate Management (DCSEM).

The construction of LIGO-India is a major milestone for gravitational wave science and for the universal progress of science that transcends borders. The observatory will help to answer some of the most fundamental questions about the cosmos. And through collaboration with like-minded partners, it will provide current and aspiring scientists with a wider window into the universe while inspiring the next generation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The imperfections today

That India is no longer a secular, inclusive and pluralistic democracy is so tangible, ever since 2014, with innumerable instances to prove the same, the present instances being the way the Bilkis Bano case is being handled as well as the case of the murder of Scheduled Caste IAS officer Krishnaiah.

The minorities and the marginalised always seem to be at the receiving end (Editorial, "Present imperfect", May 4).

When the top political leadership in the country seems more eager to keep a count of the number of times it has been subjected to verbal abuse by the political opposition than focusing on the plight of the common man in general and the minorities and the marginalised in particular, India is bound to attract detrimental observations such as those made by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

G.B. Sivanandam,
Coimbatore

The deep anguish expressed by the judiciary in the Bilkis Bano case is understandable. The audacity of the 11 convicts in trying to hoodwink the judiciary is shocking. The Bench comprising eminent judges should now scrupulously follow up the case, even if it means working during vacations in order to ensure that the judiciary is to be revered and respected. The law of land is supreme and equal for all. One should appreciate the efforts of the judiciary in voicing its opinion in this case as it would help in creating awareness on the realities.

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

Intriguing contest

Both the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress in Karnataka have a slew of freebies in their election manifestos. Despite its disdain for the '*revdi*' culture, the BJP has promises such as free cooking gas cylinders. The Congress too has quite a big list. With religion being a sensitive subject in Karnataka, one also finds the two parties on opposite sides of the fence. Overall, one has an intriguing contest on the horizon, with polarisation and populism playing key roles.

Vijaykumar H.K.,
Raichur, Karnataka

'Incapitation'

It bodes well that the Centre is planning to form a panel to consider the need for a painless and more dignified alternative to death by hanging, taking into consideration today's medical science and technological advancements. ("Centre plans panel to find alternative to death by hanging", May 3). That execution of death convicts deters a certain amount of murders has been discredited by social science research. Death penalties by execution falsely convince the public that the government has taken effective measures to combat crime and homicide. Living in modern times, the best alternate method to execution is 'incapacitation'. Capital punishment is a barbaric remnant of an uncivilised society.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Policy mishaps

While the perception is that Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has been earning a good name for a number of beneficial schemes, it is unfortunate that the government has had to reverse some of its policy decisions, examples being the 12-hour working schedule for employees and allowing liquor service in private functions and stadia, which resulted in much opposition. The many policy mishaps make one wonder whether some advisers to the Chief Minister are misleading him. Are we in for a phase of more damage to the credibility of this government?

Tharcius S. Fernando,
Chennai

Spat at the stadium

Sledging and cricket are like a violin and its strings — they are together. On the field, cricketers sledge in the spur of the moment. Not all players can be expected to be as cool as M.S. Dhoni. It is fortunate that the spat between Virat Kohli and Gautam Gambhir, did not end in a fist fight. A wrap on their knuckles is a must if still cricket is considered to be a gentleman's game.

K. Pradeep,
Chennai

Manobala

Actor, director and producer, Manobala, besides being a versatile person was also affable. Though he was a producer and director, he was in his element as a comedian. The cine world has lost yet another veteran.

Manoharan Muthuswamy,
Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu

His lanky frame enabled him to shine in comedy and he was a perfect foil to ace comedians such as Vivek, Vadivelu, Santhanam and Suri. He also earned a reputation as being an able administrator as well as a vital cog in film unions and associations.

C.V. Aravind,
Bengaluru

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Do CCTV cameras protect us or invade our privacy?

PARLEY

Srinivas Kodali

is a researcher on digitisation, and hacktivist

Anushka Jain

works as the Policy Counsel at Internet Freedom Foundation

India's CCTV camera coverage has grown rapidly over the years. Today, Delhi and Chennai have more cameras per square mile than cities in China. States argue that CCTV cameras reduce crime, and the public finds the presence of these cameras reassuring. In a survey conducted by Lokniti-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies in August 2022 in 12 States, more than three-fourths of the respondents supported installing CCTV cameras at the entrance of their homes. However, surveillance is a big concern. Recently, in Telangana, the wrong man was apprehended when authorities purportedly recognised him from security camera footage as a potential culprit in a chain-snatching event. He died days after being released. In a conversation moderated by **Sonikka Loganathan**, Srinivas Kodali and Anushka Jain discuss whether CCTVs are helping the police fight crime or are being used as a tool to invade privacy. Edited excerpts:

Do more CCTV cameras help reduce crime?

Srinivas Kodali: This is a claim. We don't have any evidence. But it's clear that the cameras don't always function.

Anushka Jain: The state says this because they want to be seen as doing something to reduce crime. There are multiple studies in the U.K. which show that there is no connection between CCTV cameras and reduction of crime. If the claim is that cameras will increase women's safety, then why are crimes against women not going down? The majority of crimes against women take place at home. CCTV cameras are not helpful in those situations. And, like Srinivas said, most CCTV cameras don't even work.

A CAG audit of 2018-19 stated that only 55-68% cameras were working in Delhi. Do you think that cameras still help the police identify suspects?

SK: They help the police close cases by figuring out who the criminal is, but they don't always work. If a crime scene has no CCTV footage, that case rarely gets solved. And there is an over-reliance on these systems, which leads to false negatives and false positives.

AJ: A false negative means that the police have not been able to identify the criminal and he goes free. A false positive means that an innocent person is identified as the suspect.

Do you think that the pros of CCTV/facial recognition outweigh privacy concerns?

SK: It's not just about facial recognition; the police use CCTV cameras to identify cars and bikes which are speeding or have been used in a robbery. In theory, this is great. The challenge is that we don't know what the police are using the footage for otherwise. Are they using it at protest sites? Even if there is no CCTV camera at the site, the police use their phones or handy cameras for recording because they are afraid that something untoward might happen. There could be somebody at the protest who was politically motivated to cause harm, which is true, and the police should be allowed to do this. But there has to be an oversight of the actions of the police thereafter, which does not happen. And that's the real challenge – when you don't know what they're going to do with this data. So, it's not just about policing the bad people; good people may also get harmed.

Nilgiris District Superintendent of Police K. Prabhakar inaugurating the CCTV camera surveillance in Udhagamandalam. SATHYAMOORTHY M.

AJ: They have a database against which they match the CCTV footage. The database could be the criminal tracking network system, passport, or licence records. That is how facial recognition works. It depends on how long the database is supposed to have your data. According to the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, fingerprints, handprints or any evidence can be kept for 75 years. Why 75 years? There is no explanation. So, even after you die, evidence such as your fingerprints could be on record. What is the point of that? Like Srinivas said, the task of the police is to not just investigate crimes, but maintain public order. There are barriers to how freely people can protest and one of them is police intimidation. For example, if the police record me while I am protesting, this can affect not just me, but have a chilling effect on others. They may be scared to be identified by the police. The right to protest, to freedom of speech and to privacy all get violated. Just because I'm in a public space does not mean that my right to privacy has ended.

How is surveillance integrated into the legal framework?

AJ: There is no law which regulates how the data is collected, processed, stored, when it should be deleted, or with whom it can be shared. There is no specific law with regard to facial recognition, or a standard operating procedure on how the police should use CCTVs or facial recognition technology.

> There is no law which regulates how the data is collected, processed, stored, when it should be deleted, or with whom it can be shared.
> ANUSHKA JAIN

SK: The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act allows police departments to use new technologies – not just facial recognition but also fingerprint recognition, voice detection, etc. And there is no oversight. For instance, the New York and London police departments have oversight committees. When there is a violation of civil rights, you can file a complaint against the police. India does not have that. Also, if I don't know what evidence is being collected and how these systems function, how do I challenge them in courts? Even judges are not always familiar with these systems. The State police departments have police manuals and standing orders. Ideally, the use of facial recognition and all evidentiary practices need to be part of these manuals. But you won't find it in, say, the Telangana police manual.

If I want my footage of walking down a street wiped from a police camera because I just don't want it there, there is nothing I can do?

SK: Technically, you can file an RTI and request footage. But they always say that they don't store the footage for more than 30 days. When you file an RTI, they have to reply within 30 days. So their reply will be that it has been deleted.

It is easy to tamper with video footage these days. Is camera footage reliable evidence?

AK: To use CCTV evidence, there are conditions laid out under the Indian Evidence Act (Section 65B). There is a certificate that has to be obtained. But often the hardware is damaged and the quality of the recording is poor. So, even if you know that the recording has been made legally, it could still not be sufficient evidence. And yes technology has transformed so much that it's difficult to identify tampering of footage.

SK: If there is any footage, no matter how it was obtained, courts may take the side of the police. But it should be the police who have to prove that this is authentic. If you have CCTV footage of a man at a place, but his phone was somewhere else, he can make the argument that he wasn't at that spot. But obtaining call records is hard for an individual. The police can obtain them easily. So, people who are being accused of something do not have the power to question the accusation.

Do you think that lack of laws is indirectly promoting misuse?

AJ: I don't want to attribute malice. I feel that, when somebody is working for a cause, they become convinced (that what they are doing is right). Sometimes they rely more on CCTV when they should not, or they don't show evidence that may not support their theory. They justify those actions saying they are doing all this to remove criminals from the street. Maybe they do this because they are convinced that the person has committed the crime and they are not able to prove it. However, there needs to be a human rights assessment of these technologies, how they are being used by the police. When they are used correctly, what are the benefits and are they comparable to the harm being caused?

Can the government access CCTV footage?

AJ: This brings us back to the need to adopt data protection principles like purpose limitation and storage limitation. This means that only the data to be used for a lawful purpose is collected. It is stored only for the time until which the purpose is carried out. After that it is deleted. There is a legal vacuum when it comes to these systems and processes. So, the data that you've shared with the government could hypothetically be accessed by the police and vice-versa.

Why is there a legal vacuum even years after CCTVs were introduced to the public?

SK: A lot of these systems came into place because of society's demands. CCTVs primarily were pushed from a woman safety angle. The idea was to invest in them because of the failures that took place during the Mumbai attacks too. We were modernising our entire policing infrastructure, so we began experimenting with technologies. If you look at how governance functions, you do a pilot project. If it succeeds, you expand it. There were multiple pilots conducted. If Hyderabad invested in facial recognition, Andhra Pradesh invested in iris recognition. There are different police departments and because the police are under the control of the State governments, States decide what they want to do. Laws are brought about to protect citizens, but in this case national security is being used as an excuse not to bring laws to control state surveillance.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The difference between a podcast 'interview' and a media interview

Though the podcast is more demanding, it is also in some ways less stressful and uniquely rewarding

Sampath G.

Podcast journalism is a recent phenomenon. Most, if not all, of the journalists doing podcasts today would have received no formal training in it. As one of the hosts of InFocus, The Hindu's flagship podcast series on current affairs, I've had people frequently ask me how I go about doing things. When I try to explain, often the first thing I hear is, 'Oh, so you basically do audio interviews.' Well, not exactly.

There are different kinds of podcasts, and the interview-based podcast is one of them. It is true that the InFocus podcast is essentially an interview – with a subject expert. It is also true it is done exclusively in audio format – there is no video element and the transcript does not get published in print or online. But journalistically speaking, the podcast 'interview' is quite different from the traditional 'media' interview as we know and practise it.

First, the two have different objectives. The purpose of the media interview is to generate compelling copy – and perhaps a sensational headline – for the publication. The podcast is under no such compulsion. The objective of InFocus is to explain or explore a complicated or interesting news development.

Second, unlike the traditional interview, the podcast is a collaboration between interviewer and interviewee. I did hundreds of interviews before I did a single podcast. In all of them, I just had to show up and start shooting questions while a dictaphone recorded the answers. I did not have to do anything other than try and ensure that my questions were answered - without evasiveness or prevarication. It was a slightly adversarial relationship though one always tried to keep things cordial. But a podcast interview is a partnership between the journalist (host), and in the case of InFocus, the expert (guest). We share the common objective of decoding a complex subject, which brings us to the third difference: I tell the guest in advance about my line of questioning so she can prepare. I would never do this in a traditional interview.

Fourth, in a podcast, the journalist is also a moderator. Among other things, it is my job to quickly create a relaxed environment so that the guest (who may have never done a podcast before) is at ease, introduce the topic, steer the conversation smoothly from sub-theme to sub-theme with appropriate transitions, and tie it all together nicely at the end with an 'outro'. In a media interview, when you have asked your last question, you don't summarise – you switch off the dictaphone and take your leave.

Explainer podcasts such as InFocus also differ from media interviews with regard to the magnitude of research involved. Most often, a journalist typically interviews people from his beat or in connection with his beat. So, there is already familiarity with the interviewee and/or the subject of the questions. If research is needed, it is specific to the news context (say, an election) or the person (if it's for a profile). But in a podcast series where each episode is on a completely different topic, the interview calls for three different levels of research: one, to familiarise yourself with the subject along with the latest developments so as to come up with engaging questions; two, search for the most appropriate (and available) expert; and three, to familiarise yourself with the guest's work and special interests.

Finally, podcast interviews have a whole new tech dimension to them – using the right microphone, mixing separate audio tracks, etc. – that is missing from the traditional interview. Overall, though the podcast is more demanding, it is also in some ways less stressful and uniquely rewarding insofar as it's a collaborative exercise that orchestrates a convivial, intimate space between three curious minds – the host, the guest and the listener.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

Not the ideal picture of harmony, at Jantar Mantar

Wrestlers and medallists Sangeeta Phogat and Vinesh Phogat react after a scuffle is said to have broken out between the wrestlers, who are on protest, and the police, in New Delhi, on May 3. PTI

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 5, 1973

"No Indian solider in custody"

New Delhi, May 4: Mr. Vidya Charan Shukla, Minister of Defence Production, said in the Rajya Sabha to-day that Government presumed that no Indian solider was in Chinese custody, following the Chinese aggression in 1962, and therefore no efforts had been made to take up the matter with the Chinese Government. Dr. Bhai Mahavir asked about the number of Indian soldiers still missing and not yet accounted for following the Chinese aggression in 1962, and whether the Government had approach the International Red Cross and other agencies, with China having became a member of the United Nations to find out if any solider was in captivity there. Mr. Shukla said all soldiers who were declared missing as a result of the aggression had already been officially presumed "in accordance with the prescribed procedure" to have been killed.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 5, 1923

Kerala Provincial Conference

Palghat, May 5: Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, President-elect Kerala Provincial Conference arrived here by this morning's mail train. She was received by the members of the Reception Committee at Olavakot and garlanded. Mrs. Naidu was taken in procession in a motor car.

From Page One

Shoot-at-sight order issued in Manipur

Officials said the Imphal-Churachandpur road, the axis along which much of the violence took place, had been secured by the combined forces.

"The Army and Assam Rifles personnel are conducting flag marches and aerial reconnaissance in the affected areas. We have rescued 5,000 people in Churachandpur and 2,000 each in Imphal and Moreh and lodged them in safe places," a defence spokesperson said. An additional 14 columns of the Army and paramilitary force have been kept on standby for deployment on short notice, he added.

The heightened security did not deter mobs from attacking vulnerable spots. Assessing the situation, Governor Anusuiya Uikey authorised all district magistrates and executive magistrates to issue shoot-at-sight orders "in extreme cases whereby all forms of persuasion, warning, reasonable force etc has been exhausted".

The order came hours after Mr. Shah called up Mr. Singh and took stock of the situation. The Union Home Ministry appointed Kuldiep Singh, former Director-General of the Central Reserve Police Force, as the Chief Minister's security adviser. Mr. Shah chaired two video conferences with Mr. Singh, the State police chief and other senior officials and also conferred with the Chief Ministers of Nagaland, Mizoram and Assam.

Following his meeting with Mr. Shah, the Chief Minister appealed to the people in a video message to maintain peace and harmony. "During the last 24 hours, some incidents of clashes, vandalism and arson were reported from Imphal, Churachandpur, Bishnupur, Kangpokpi and Moreh," he said. "The long-term grievances of communities will be addressed in consultations with people and organisations. We have all co-existed in Manipur peacefully for centuries. We should not allow the culture of communal harmony to be disturbed by vested interests," he said.

His Mizoram counterpart, Zoramthanga, wrote him a letter on Thursday, saying that he was deeply pained by the violence and the underlying tension between the "Meitei community and tribals there". Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio said that he was deeply disturbed about the unrest
(With inputs from Vijaita Singh in New Delhi)

Jaishankar holds talks with Qin, but not Bhutto

Mr. Jaishankar also tweeted that he had held a "comprehensive review" of the bilateral, global and multilateral cooperation between India and Russia with Mr. Lavrov.

A statement released by the Russian Embassy said that the two Ministers had held a "trust-based exchange of views" on all issues, and on their cooperation as part of the India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership.

Both Mr. Jaishankar's meetings with the Russian and Chinese Ministers lasted more than an hour each, and included discussions about other upcoming events, including the SCO and G-20 summits in India, and the BRICS summit in South Africa, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

In particular, Russia and China have held up consensus on the joint communique that India is hoping to release during the G-20 summit in September.

"The intention to further strengthen coordination to develop common approaches within the framework of interaction at the most important international platforms, including the SCO, BRICS, the UN and the G20 was confirmed," the Russian statement said, adding that India and Russia were committed to "building a fair multipolar system of interstate relations".

Mr. Lavrov arrived in Delhi on Thursday morning, a day after Russia claimed that the Kremlin had been targeted by unmanned drones from Ukraine, which the Ukrainian President denied. He is expected to raise the issue during the SCO FM deliberations on Friday.

Stop caste survey, High Court tells Bihar govt.

Advocate Dinu Kumar, for the petitioners, told the court that the Bihar government was misusing the contingency fund and the right to conduct such surveys was beyond the State's jurisdiction.

Advocate-General P.K. Shahi, for the State, said the survey was being conducted to make plans for public welfare.

Data security concerns

"The petitioners have made out a prima facie case against the continuation of the caste-based survey. There is also the question raised of data integrity and security, which has to be more elaborately addressed by the State," the court said.

"Prima facie, we are of the opinion that the State has no power to carry out a caste-based survey, in the manner in which it is fashioned now, which would amount to a census, thus impinging upon the legislative power of the Union Parliament," the HC said.

The next hearing is scheduled for July 3.

The first phase of the survey, which involved houselisting exercise, was carried out from January 7 to January 21. The second phase began on April 15 and was supposed to conclude on May 15.
(With PTI inputs)

Many cable TV operators yet to comply with norms

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Hundreds of multi-system operators (MSOs), or cable TV operators, have not yet complied with all the terms and conditions for their registration as laid down by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

According to the latest list released by the Ministry, there are a little over 1,700 operators and among them, about 230 are compliant. The registration of more than 250 MSOs, which are non-compliant, remains suspended.

Taking cognisance of the matter, the Ministry issued an advisory in March asking the registered broadcasters to enter into fresh inter-connection or renewal agreements with only those MSOs whose status was "compliant". The Ministry decided to mark as "non-compliant" all operators that had failed to adhere to terms and conditions of registration. The recorded violations included contravention of audit regulations, and non-intimation of change of director.

The Ministry had earlier said that if a broadcaster had an agreement with a non-compliant MSO, it was required to ask the company to get the status changed.

SCO Ministers meet today to discuss economic ties

Officials say India's position is seen as a 'balancing force' as a member of Quad, G-20, BRICS, IBSA and SCO; Foreign Ministers to discuss the induction of Iran and Belarus as full members

Suhasini Haidar
BENAULIM (GOA)

Stepping up economic cooperation, including discussing national currency payments for mutual trade, will be on the agenda for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers meeting in Benaulim on Friday.

The proposal, which comes in the wake of the Ukraine war and sanctions imposed on Russia, which is one of the founder members of the organisation, came from Central Asian members, said sources, indicating that "initial discussions" had begun between the eight-member group comprising Russia, China, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

"The most important work before the SCO Foreign Ministers will be to assess the status of decisions that will be approved at the SCO Summit in New Delhi in July," said Dammu Ravi, Secretary (Economic Relations) in the MEA, briefing presspersons on Thursday.

India is already in bilateral discussions with Russia on using national payments, third-country payments and other means over circumventing unilateral sanctions imposed by the U.S. and the European Union, and is part of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) grouping that is also discussing a multilateral payment mechanism.

Boosting measures: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with his Russian counterpart, Sergei Lavrov, in Goa on Thursday. REUTERS

"While traditionally, security and terrorism used to dominate the SCO's agenda, but during its presidency, India is bringing on the table issues of economic and cultural cooperation between the members as well," official sources said.

The issues were discussed on Thursday morning by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and SCO Secretary-General Zhang Ming. They also reviewed 15 "decision points" that would be discussed and approved by the Foreign Ministers after Friday morning's SCO meeting, and MoUs will be signed.

A final decision on all the points, including the national payments collaboration will be taken at the SCO Heads of State Summit in July this year, where the officials said Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping will be among those invited by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

While all other countries are represented by their Presidents, India and Pakistan are represented by their Prime Ministers at the HoS meeting.

The sources said that the SCO Foreign Ministers will discuss the induction of Iran and Belarus as full members at their meeting, and will forward their applications to the summit.

Asked whether India, that has no ties at a political level with co-member Pakistan, and strained ties with SCO founder China due to the military standoff at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) three years ago, as well as a member of U.S.-led groupings like the Quad which have been criticised by SCO co-founder Russia, was in an awkward position as the SCO host, officials said that India's position is appreciated as a "balancing" force.

"I think that most [countries] appreciate the fact that India is able to play such a versatile role, as a member of different groupings such as Quad (U.S.-India-Japan-Australia), G-20, BRICS, in IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa) and the SCO. This shows that India's role is appreciated and India is seen as a balancing force," said the official.

One killed as Army chopper makes hard landing in J&K

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

One Army technician was killed and two pilots were injured after a Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH), on an operational mission, made a hard landing on Thursday morning on the banks of the Marua river in the Kishtwar region of Jammu and Kashmir.

The three personnel sustained injuries and were evacuated to the Command Hospital in Udhampur where the technician, CFN Pabballa Anil, died of his injuries, the Army said.

This is the third incident involving an ALH in two months. After a Navy ALH-MkIII was ditched at sea on March 8, the entire fleet was grounded for checks, with only a few batches cleared recently for flying. Senior defence officials said the recent inquiry pointed to a critical design issue with the control rods.

"The pilots had reported a technical fault to the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) and proceeded for a precautionary landing. Due to the undulating ground, undergrowth and unprepared landing area, the helicopter made a hard landing," the Army's Udhampur-based Northern Command said.

NCP panel for picking Pawar successor to hold meeting today

Shoumojit Banerjee
PUNE

Two days after resigning as the national president of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), Sharad Pawar on Thursday met party workers protesting against his decision, explaining that he decided to step down for the "future of the party".

With NCP cadre from all over Maharashtra and even other parts of the country milling outside Mumbai's Y.B. Chavan Centre, Mr. Pawar assuaged his party cadre by stating that the final decision by the committee of NCP leaders to decide on the issue of the national president would be taken within the next two days.

New face

The NCP committee formed to decide on the course of electing the new national president would meet on Friday. The committee includes Mr. Pawar's daughter and Baramati MP Supriya Sule; his nephew, Maharashtra Leader of Opposition Ajit Pawar; NCP State chief Jayant Patil, former Union Minister Praful Patel, senior leader Chhagan Bhujbal, and others.

Sharad Pawar

"I believe that there should be a new face for the NCP. A committee has been formed and they will take a final decision soon," Mr. Pawar told the party workers, who have been urging him to take back his decision to step down.

Higher PF pension: 1.16% to be taken from employers' share, says Labour Ministry

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The loser is the employee as his PF account will suffer a shortfall of 1.16%, says lawyer

The Union Labour Ministry has issued two notifications on Wednesday on the implementation of the Supreme Court verdict on higher provident fund (PF) pension.

While one notification empowers the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to draw 1.16% additional contribution from within the overall 12% of the contribution of the employers into the PF, the second notification notifies the relevant provisions in the Code on Social Security to legalise this step. The provision will be implemented in retrospective and employers will contribute 8.33% on entire wages and 1.16% on wages from September 1, 2014.

Explaining the decision, a senior EPFO official said the contribution into pension fund is exactly the same as prior to the Supreme Court order on the matter on November 4, 2022. "Only the legal infirmity has been corrected by the government in compliance with the apex court judgment. Instead of 1.16% of wages from employee's share of PF, now the same will come from employer's share of PF," the official said.

Legal experts differed from what the Centre has claimed. Lawyer appearing for pensioners in several cases, S. Krishna Moorthy, said the Supreme Court had ordered that the 1.16% on the amount in excess of ₹15,000 levied from the employees to enable them to get enhanced pension on actual salary was *ultra vires*.

"The employees were directed to continue that additional payment for six months within which period the Union government was authorised to bring in necessary changes in the scheme to meet the requirements. But what has now been done is that 9.49% of employer's share of 12% is directed to be remitted to pension fund instead of the present 8.33%. Only the remaining 2.51% will get credited to PF account instead of 3.67%. The loser is the employee, not the employer. His PF account will suffer a shortfall of 1.16%. The interest on PF accumulations also will reduce to that extent," he said, adding that the move is a "brutal attack" on the PF pension beneficiaries.

Market will decide if a film is worth a watch: CJI

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday referred to the multiple challenges faced by *The Kerala Story* while asking a petitioner to pay regard to the money "sunk" into the project by the film's makers and the labour put in by the actors.

Several petitioners have argued that the film demonised the entire Muslim community, particularly Muslim youth, with a "malicious propaganda" that 32,000 girls in Kerala were lured through 'love *jihad*', and trafficked to West Asia to join the IS.

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said the market would ultimately decide whether the film was worth a watch or not.

The court said it has to be vigilant while dealing with petitions seeking a stay on the release of a film.

AIR should be referred to as Akashvani, says D-G

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

All India Radio (AIR) Director-General Vasudha Gupta has directed all departments concerned to ensure that the public broadcaster is referred to as "Akashvani" in accordance with the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990, which came into force on November 15, 1997.

Section 2(a) of the Act says "Akashvani" means all offices, stations and other establishments which are or were under the Director-General All India Radio of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

SC closes wrestlers' case; police promise an 'impartial' probe

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

After stepping in to prompt the Delhi Police to register two FIRs on sexual harassment complaints against Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the Supreme Court on Thursday signed out of the case even as the police promised a "completely independent and impartial" investigation by a team led by a senior woman IPS officer.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, Justices P.S. Narasimha and J.B. Pardiwala said the wrestlers had moved the apex court specifically seeking registration of an

FIR. The police have since then registered two FIRs against the WFI chief. One of the FIRs separately deals with offences under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act allegedly committed against a minor.

The court said the purpose of the wrestlers' petition has served its purpose.

"We are doing our best. It will be a completely independent and impartial investigation. There is no reason for the petitioners to come here (apex court at every stage). That will not serve the ends of justice," Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta said.

"We are only concerned with the investigation being carried out," Chief Justice Chandrachud observed. The Bench, however, refused a plea by the wrestlers' counsel, senior advocate Narender Hooda, to appoint a retired Supreme Court or High Court judge to monitor the investigation.

Two militants shot dead in Baramulla

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militants were killed in a pre-dawn encounter with security forces in Baramulla district of north Kashmir on Thursday.

A joint team of the police and the Army launched a nocturnal cordon-and-search operation in Baramulla's Kreeri to encircle the hiding militants. The police said the slain terrorists were planning to carry out an attack in the area.

APPEAL

Baby Jiyansh Dipak Tahilyani, Younger son of Dipak Chandrakumar, 2 years admitted in Mazumdar Shaw Medical Center, is suffering from Thalassemia Major. The only curative treatment is bone marrow transplant. Hence planned to take him for bone marrow transplant using sibling as a donor. The approximate cost estimation of the procedure of **Rs. 20,50,000**/-.

Please send donation however small and save the boy. Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Jiyansh Dipak Tahilyani. **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

'Karnataka polls important; BJP will get a full majority'

Allegations that the BJP promotes only Hindi are politically motivated, says Home Minister; the party, he says, will win an absolute majority in Karnataka on the back of the work done by the Narendra Modi government at the Centre and the State government; while alleging that the Congress practises appeasement politics, the Minister defends scrapping of reservation for Muslims in Karnataka

INTERVIEW

Amit Shah

Varghese K. George
Nistula Hebbar

It's the BJP's effort to make sure that party workers are present in every booth, and it's working for that in Tamil Nadu and Kerala as well; the party may not be far ahead as it is in Karnataka and Telangana in these States, but efforts are on, Home Minister Amit Shah says about the BJP's southern push. In Kerala, the BJP is trying to reach out to the Christian community because the BJP reaches out to every Indian, and Christians in Kerala are part of that effort, he says. With the BJP's reach increasing, the party will be able to crack down on corruption in the southern States, especially in Telangana, he adds. Edited excerpts:

Karnataka is the only southern State where the BJP is in power. How important are these polls for you in terms of a footprint in the South and what are the party's prospects?

This is an important election for the BJP, and we will form the government with a full majority in Karnataka. This will be on the back of the work done by both Prime Minister Modi's government and the State government. The basis for my optimism is the support of the beneficiaries of the 4.1 lakh houses constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana, of 43 lakh tap water connections under Jal Jeevan Mission, four crore people benefiting under the Anna Yojana, 54 lakh farmers being given over ₹15 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi. As for its effect on the rest of the South, I believe the BJP is well placed in Telangana as well. I also firmly believe that along with BJP's reach increasing in the South, the party will be able to crackdown on corruption in the southern States, especially in Telangana.

You mention Karnataka and Telangana as places where the BJP will win polls, what about the efforts being made in Tamil Nadu and Kerala?

It's our effort to make sure that BJP workers are present in every booth, and we are working for that in Tamil Nadu and Kerala as well; maybe we are not as far ahead as we are in Karnataka and Telangana in these States, but efforts are on.

In Kerala, the BJP is trying to reach out to the Christian community, particularly...

BJP reaches out to every Indian, and Christians in Kerala are also part of that effort.

Was the removal of Mr. Yediyurappa in 2021 a misstep, looking at the chain of events like rebellion by Jagadish Shettar and Laxman Savadi?

Yediyurappa*ji* himself took the decision that he should give way to another Chief Minister. In our party, we have an age criterion, and he had said that whenever the party wants to operationalise that criteria, it could. He stood down eight months after that conversation. It's a part of a natural generational change. As for Jagadish Shettar and Laxman Savadi, it's not a rebellion. They left over individual "moh" [attachment] to getting tickets. There was a clear logic of the party behind denial of tickets to both of them. In the case of Jagadish Shettar, he had made it clear that he would not serve as Minister under Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, so we felt why should he continue as a mere MLA then, would that have been acceptable to

him? As far as Laxman Savadi is concerned, his MLC term was to run to mid-2028, which is longer than the term of the Assembly to be elected in the next week, so why shouldn't the party have looked for a candidate? Nobody has left with them, and we don't look at this as a rebellion. Let me declare right now that Shettar's margin of loss will be more than his margin of victory ever was, since the people of Huballi have voted for the Lotus, not an individual.

There is talk that the reservation policy cleared by the Bommai government is not being defended adequately in court.

The case is over scrapping of reservation for Muslims, and as far as that is concerned, the BJP believes as a matter of principle that reservation should be as per the Constitution which has no provisions for reservation on the basis of religion. I have publicly said that we may have acted late on scrapping reservation for Muslims, we should have acted earlier.

Prime Minister Modi has spoken repeatedly over the undesirability of *revadi* (freebie) culture yet the BJP manifesto has free gas cylinders in it.

Please understand the definition of what is *revadi* culture. We have provided housing for three crore people, and will give to five crore more, we have provided fluoride-free tap water, we have given gas connections, health insurance of up to ₹5 lakh to people, free foodgrains which help fight malnutrition, all these are not freebies, these are benefits to the people to improve long-term quality of life and health. What is a freebie? If you promise to send ₹3,000 per month to the account of every woman, such kind of cash transfer is a *revadi*.

But under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, the government is distributing income support.

It is not a freebie. For a long time, there was a trend that various political parties would promise loan write-offs to small and marginal farmers, basically those with less than a hectare of land. We got a study done on how much loan was required for such a farmer to raise two crops on his holding, that figure for the average land holding of 2.5 acres, for seeds, irrigation and fertilizer plus pesticide would come to ₹6,000. So we decided that this amount should be given to farmers as a measure to make him/her self-sufficient, *atmanirbhar*, so that he doesn't have to take loans for the short-term. This is not *revadi*. Government has, under a scientific approach, devised this programme to save small farmers from indebtedness and the banking system from dealing with fiscal indiscipline.

What was the basis for offering a National Register of Citizens for Karnataka?

The NRC is not the correct word here. What's been promised is a kind of survey, every State government has the right to conduct a social survey. The right to maintain the National Register of Citizens is only with the Centre.

What do you think of the allegation that the BJP is a largely Hindi party and pushing that agenda.

This issue of Hindi imposition is a political allegation often made against the BJP whereas the party is working to strengthen all local languages.

Most of the Central services exams can now be taken in local languages. Earlier, someone who has studied, say, in Kannada medium would have found it difficult to take many of these exams. We made it so that most of these exams can be taken in several languages. NEET can be taken in several Indian languages, so also exams for recruitment of constables, with SSC as the basic qualification. So our work is to encourage local languages, Kannada, Tamil or Malayalam... including in engineering and medicine studies. This is also a part of the New Education Policy, and the Congress in Karnataka is opposing this, thereby also opposing studies in Kannada.

The Congress has spoken of banning the Bajrang Dal in its manifesto. As Home Minister, what is your reaction?

This is part of the Congress' appeasement policy. For many years, out of fear of dispute, they had locked up the Ram Temple, and now they are talking of banning the Bajrang Dal. The Popular Front of India (PFI) ban and banning Bajrang Dal cannot be compared. The PFI was banned for anti-national and terror-related activities, after gathering primary stage evidence of the same. And the board that is constituted to consider reviewing the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) , under a High Court judge, consulted 12 State governments and declared that the ban on PFI was justified. The Congress cannot talk of lifting the ban on PFI so they are drawing a false equivalence between the PFI and the Bajrang Dal, as part of its appeasement policy.

Families flee homes, take shelter in relief camps after violence in Manipur

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

Brief respite: People from violence-affected areas take rest at a shelter arranged by the Army on Thursday. ANI

Many families in Manipur's capital Imphal and nearby districts have been forced to take refuge in shelter camps, after mounting violence in the State over the issue of Scheduled Tribe status for the Meitei community.

Golan Naulak, 36, said he fled his home in eastern Imphal with four family members on Thursday. "It is a complete failure of the state machinery. Mobs are roaming around freely. We have lost our home, my car, documents and all our belongings. We are currently taking shelter at the compound of Manipur Rifles in the city," he told *The Hindu* over phone.

Clashes between the Scheduled Tribe communities opposing ST status for the Meitei people and those belonging to the Meitei community have left panic and confusion in their wake. Some families, whose homes were set on fire, escaped to neighbours' homes or found refuge in the compound of Manipur University. Others moved to the relief camps that were set up in the city.

Several residents who spoke to *The Hindu* over the phone said there were attacks by mobs comprising Meitei people.

While it was announced by the government that mobile Internet would not be available in a few districts as a precaution, broadband facilities were also disrupted in some places. "Around 2 p.m. on Thursday, we lost our home Wi-Fi. In about an hour, a mob of around 300 people stormed our neighbourhood and started vandalising homes," Mr. Naulak said.

A 25-year-old school-teacher, who belongs to a Scheduled Tribe, said, "We have been told that more than a dozen churches have been vandalised in and around Imphal. We also saw a hospital run by the Kuki Christian Church being burnt down."

When she spoke on the phone, she was trying to make it to a relief camp with 11 other family members, including two infants, a disabled aunt and elderly grandparents.

Even as Adivasi residents in and around Imphal and Churachandpur say their homes and villages were being raided by mobs of Meitei people, members of the Meitei Tribe Union have blamed "illegal migrants from Burma" for fuelling the violence.

Manihar Moirangthem Kongpal, adviser to the Meitei Tribe Union, claimed that the entire Meitei community in areas like Churachandpur and Moreh was facing violence at the hands of "such miscreants". He insisted that the violence was purportedly started by those associated with Kuki associations. There were reports that some Meitei homes had also been attacked and these families too were fleeing to safety.

Meitei issue: HAC chief tones down opposition

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

Dinganglung Gangmei, chairperson of the Hills Area Committee of the Manipur Assembly, on Thursday dialled down the opposition to the demand for Scheduled Tribe status for the Meitei community in the State, after the violent clashes between groups against the demand for inclusion and those in favour.

This comes a day after the Manipur High Court issued a notice to Mr. Gangmei and the president of the All Tribal Students' Union, Manipur, on a contempt petition filed by members of the Meitei community for passing resolutions opposing a court order.

A Bench of the Acting Chief Justice M.V. Muralidaran, also issued notice to the State's Director General of Police to ensure presence on May 8 in court.

BJP's politics of hate has made fissures in Manipur: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP's politics of hate has created fissures among different communities in Manipur, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge alleged on Thursday as he appealed to the people of the State for restraint.

"Manipur is burning. BJP has created fissures among communities and destroyed the peace of a beautiful State. BJP's politics of hate, division and its greed for power is responsible for this mess. We appeal to people from all sides to exercise restraint and give peace a chance," Mr. Kharge tweeted.

Former party chief Rahul Gandhi urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to focus on restoring peace and normalcy in the State. In a tweet, he said he was deeply concerned about Manipur's rapidly deteriorating law and order situation. "The Prime Minister must focus on restoring peace and normalcy. I urge the people of Manipur to stay calm," Mr. Gandhi said.

Congress general secretary (communication) Jairam Ramesh said the people's mandate in Manipur had been betrayed and all sections of the State were unhappy.

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S. No	Name of work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD)	Tender Fee	Date of Release of tender in E-Procurement Solution & Tender ID No.	Last Date/Time of receipt of tender E-Procurement Solution
1	Creation of Lake at Okhla STP under A.C.E. (P) - 4	Rs. 10,14,37,302/-	Rs. 20,15,000/-	1500/-	03.05.2023 Tender Id 2023_DJB_240546_1	03.05.2023 At 3:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in.

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STATEMENT OF AUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

(₹ in Crores)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Standalone			Consolidated		
		Quarter ended		Year ended	Quarter ended		Year ended
		31.03.2023	31.03.2022	31.03.2023	31.03.2023	31.03.2022	31.03.2023
		(Audited)					
1	Total Revenue from Operations	1,234.73	1,146.44	4,919.43	1,447.95	1,339.84	5,662.75
2	Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	153.33	135.49	615.93	167.60	143.86	660.66
3	Net Profit for the period (before tax)	153.33	105.49	615.93	167.60	143.86	660.66
4	Net Profit for the period (after tax)	116.41	71.41	464.40	127.47	107.43	500.35
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	121.84	80.56	480.88	132.78	120.90	517.42
6	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Re 1 each fully paid up)	21.01	21.01	21.01	21.01	21.01	21.01
7	Earnings Per Share (EPS) (for continuing and discontinued operations) (Face value of Re 1/- each) (not annualised) (in Rs.)						
	(a) Basic	5.54	3.40	22.10*	6.01	5.07	23.54*
	(b) Diluted	5.54	3.40	22.10*	6.01	5.07	23.54*

* Annualised

Notes:

1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of the standalone and consolidated financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites, www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com and on the Company's website www.sundram.com.

2 The Statutory Auditors have carried out an audit for the year ended March 31, 2023 and have issued an unqualified report thereon.

Place : Chennai
Date : May 4, 2023

For Sundram Fasteners Limited
Sd/-
Chairman

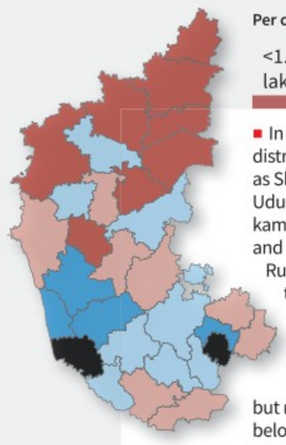
PM's rallies galore this time in the State

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is holding back-to-back rallies and roadshows in Karnataka. All eyes are now on his roadshows planned on May 6 (Saturday) and May 7 (Sunday) in Bengaluru city. Ahead of the 2018 Assembly election too, Mr. Modi had addressed 21 rallies in the State. It is said that the BJP had initially planned fewer this time, but it later increased the numbers to cash in on his popularity. The number of rallies have been significantly higher, considering that the ruling BJP government banks far more on him, given the prevailing anti-incumbency. In the first stretch, the Prime Minister had visited the State eight times between January and April 9 to inaugurate a series of developmental work and projects. In the second leg, which began on April 28, Mr. Modi is addressing 18 rallies and holding five roadshows.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves during a roadshow in Bengaluru. ANI

Class divide

The northern districts of Karnataka, including Kalaburagi, Bidar, Yadgir, Koppal, and Belagavi, are the most economically disadvantaged in the State in terms of per capita income. The map shows district-wise per capita income based on the net domestic product at current prices in ₹ for 2021-22.



Per captia income based on NDDP at current prices (in ₹)

<1.5 lakh	1.5 lakh to 2 lakh	2 lakh to 2.5 lakh	2.5 lakh to 4 lakh	>4 lakh

- In contrast, districts such as Shivamogga, Udupi, Chikkamagaluru, and Bengaluru Rural are better off, with per capita incomes exceeding ₹2.5 lakh but remaining below ₹4 lakh.
- Bengaluru Urban and Dakshina Kannada rank as the wealthiest districts, with per capita incomes >₹4 lakh.
- Given that policies affect various socio-economic groups differently, voting patterns may also shift. It will be intriguing to observe which parties the economically disadvantaged districts lean towards in the upcoming election.

Candidates in the fray with a criminal past

A report by election watch organisation Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), which looks at the criminal records of candidates from across Karnataka in the upcoming poll, shows that a total of 581 candidates face criminal cases. The report adds that 404 of them face serious criminal charges.

We have built Anjaneya temples and we too are his devotees. There is evidence to show that Anjaneya was born here

D.K. SHIVAKUMAR
KPCC president

State is no stranger to triangular contests

T. Ramakrishnan
CHENNAI

Karnataka, unlike Tamil Nadu and Kerala, is not a State with rigid bipolar politics. In the modern era, the Janata Dal(S) has been winning a considerable vote share since 1999, with the BJP and the Congress as the principal players.

Even in an Assembly election 45 years ago, there was widespread expectation of a three-cornered contest leading to a spell of political instability, according to materials provided by *The Hindu* Archives.

Only weeks prior to the date of polling in February 1978, there was a vertical split in the Congress, with the Janata Party, then the ruling party at the Centre, making every effort to capture power in the southern State and shed its image of being a North India-centric entity. But the results surprised many, as the Congress(I) – with Indira Gandhi as its president – won a majority, winning 149 seats in a House of 224 and a vote share of 44.25%. The Janata Party, despite having stalwarts such as Veerendra Patil, Ramakrishna Hegde, S.R. Bommai, and H.D. Deve Gowda, could bag only 59 seats. The official Congress won a mere two.

Be it then or subsequently, no other party – the JD(S), the Karnataka Congress Party floated by S. Bangarappa in 1994, or the Karnataka Janata Paksha run briefly by B.S. Yeddyurappa in 2013 – could match what the Congress(I) did in 1978. With hindsight, it can be argued that the vote base of the undivided Congress, as registered in the 1977 Lok Sabha poll, mostly got transferred to the Congress (I) in 1978. Later, the Congress(I) was recognised as the Indian National Congress while the 'official Congress' withered away.

BJP bets on a change in name to alter fortunes in Kalyana Karnataka

The northeastern part, formerly known as Hyderabad-Karnataka, has been a Cong. stronghold; the BJP govt. renamed it saying it will 'liberate the region from psychological slavery to Nizam rule'

NEWS ANALYSIS

Kumar Buradikatti
KALABURAGI

The poll narrative in the previous two Assembly and Lok Sabha elections in Kalyana Karnataka (Hyderabad-Karnataka) region comprising seven districts has revolved mainly around the special status accorded to it through the insertion of Article 371(J) in the Constitution in 2012 by the United Progress Alliance (UPA)-II government at the Centre.

The Congress leaders, in their poll campaign, never forget to remind people how the long-pending demand for special status to these backward districts – Bidar, Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Raichur, Koppal, Vijayanagara (recently formed), and Ballari, with (now) 41 Assembly constituencies – was rejected by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) when it led the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government, and how the Congress had fulfilled it. They talk of how the move has benefited the region in a big way, with reservations in education and employment, apart from special grants for infrastructure development.

The BJP, which was muted in its response earlier, is now countering it by talking of the hiked special annual grants to the Kalyana Karnataka Region Development Board (KKRDB) from the ₹1,500 crore given by the Congress government to ₹3,000 crore in the 2022 State Budget and to ₹5,000 crore in the 2023 State Budget.

The BJP has also been talking vociferously about the decision to rename Hyderabad-Karnataka as Kalyana Karnataka by the B.S. Yediyurappa-led government, "liberating the region from psychological slavery to Nizam rule". Significantly, Kalyana was the place where social reformer-poet-philosopher Basaveshwara, an icon of the influential Lingayat/Veerashaiva community, lived and professed the faith. Kalyana town in Bidar is now called Basava Kalyana.

Evenly matched

A look at the seats won by parties in the Kalyana Karnataka region in the 2018 Karnataka elections and the bypolls that followed

Districts in the region	2018 elections			Strength after 2021 byelection			Total seats
	Cong.	BJP	JD(S)	Cong.	BJP	JD(S)	
Bidar	4	1	1	3	2	1	6
Kalaburagi	5	4	0	4	5	0	9
Yadgir	1	2	1	1	2	1	4
Raichur	3	2	2	3	2	2	7
Koppal	2	3	0	2	3	0	5
Ballari	6	3	0	5	4	0	9
Total	21	15	4	18	18	4	40

- In the 2018 election, Congress won 21 seats in the Kalyana Karnataka region. But after the 2019 and 2021 bypolls, the BJP wrested back three seats to level with the Congress in the region

The region has produced veteran leaders, including the late Veerendra Patil and N. Dharam Singh

Congress stronghold

The northeastern part of the State has traditionally been a Congress stronghold. It is the area which produced veteran leaders, including former Chief Ministers like the late Veerendra Patil and N. Dharam Singh, and the incumbent All India Congress Committee president Mallikarjun Kharge.

Even in the 2008 Assembly election, when the might of the mining barons of Ballari (Janardhan Reddy and others) changed the political scenario in the State, the Congress managed to bag 22 seats out of 40, leaving 12 for the BJP and five for the Janata Dal-Secular (JD-S). However, the BJP bagged eight out of nine seats in Ballari.

In the 2013 Assembly poll, the Congress bagged 23 seats out of 40 in the region. The BJP had to share second place with the JD (S), with just five seats. In 2018, the Congress continued to hold its ground with 21 seats, leaving 15 for the BJP and four for the JD (S). Mr. Reddy's Karnataka Rajya Pragati Paksha (KRPP) may make an impact in some of the constituencies in Ballari and Koppal districts this time around.

The Kharge factor

Mr. Kharge's ascent as AICC president is a factor to reckon with in the run-up to the election in Kalyana Karnataka.

On the one hand, his elevation has infused fresh enthusiasm into leaders and cadres across the region, and on the other, it has mounted pressure on Mr. Kharge to prove his capabilities on his home turf.

Though a concentration of a Muslim population and a long-standing tradition of peaceful coexistence were the biggest challenges before the BJP in making inroads here, the party has been consistent in its efforts. In the last few years, it has made serious efforts at religious polarisation around two places of worship – the Ladle Mashak Dargah in Aland in Kalaburagi district, and Anjanadri Hills in Koppal.

Saffron outfits have been claiming that the Aland dargah was "originally" a Hindu temple which was later occupied and turned into a dargah. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has launched tourism development works at the Anjanadri Hills at a cost of ₹125 crore. Ahead of the poll, the BJP is emphasising the importance of this site while turning the Congress manifesto's promise to act against organisations such as Bajrang Dal into a narrative of the "insult to Lord Hanuman".

'BJP will win women's support in Karnataka as it did in U.P., Gujarat'

Development agenda, Modi's charisma will buck any anti-incumbency trend, says the party's State Election Management Committee convener

INTERVIEW

Shobha Karandlaje

B.S. Satish Kumar

The BJP's Karnataka Election Management Committee convener, Shobha Karandlaje, says women are the main focus of the party's campaign. Ms. Karandlaje, who is the Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, says women had stood by the BJP in large numbers in the Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat Assembly elections. In Karnataka, the party is trying to create awareness at the booth level of the women-centric nature of prominent Central and State schemes. Excerpts:

You have taken on poll management at a time when several senior party leaders have been denied ticket and the competition for leadership is narrowing down. Are you in the race for the Chief Minister's post?

Definitely not. It has been just two years since I became a Minister at the Centre. Party seniors wanted me to take up this responsibility since I had worked earlier, in U.P., during elections. I will execute this responsibility and go back to the Centre.

Anti-incumbency is a big poll issue in Karnataka and none of the ruling parties have won the elections in the past 38 years.

The development agenda will change the trend this time. The people of the State are aspiring for development and are smart enough to understand that development works in the State can get fast-paced if there is a double-engine government.

Another factor that will help beat this trend is PM Narendra Modi's charisma as there is a huge support for him in the State.

The BJP has changed the candidates in 19 constituencies represented by sitting MLAs. What is the rationale behind it?

Mainly, the BJP has been focusing on infusing young blood ever since Mr. Modi took over. Seniors will be given important responsibilities so that they can guide youngsters.

But denying ticket to seniors has also paved the way for a rebellion with some quitting the party and joining your opponents. Will this turn out to be a major challenge?

We are trying to convince disappointed ticket aspirants to work for the party. The big names among rebels are the ones who have enjoyed all top posts like CM and Deputy CM in the BJP. Will the Congress be able to give the posts of CM and Deputy CM to rebels who have quit the BJP? I am confident that our youngsters will win against rebels.

The Congress has accused the BJP of ignoring and insulting senior Lingayat leaders after using their services to come to power. What is your take on this?

It is the Congress that insulted and dumped its Lingayat leaders after using them. The Congress has never appointed a Lingayat leader as CM after unceremoniously removing Veerendra Patil from the post.

Rarely do women leaders get important political posts in Karnataka. Are you using this occasion to bring in any women-centric political strategies?

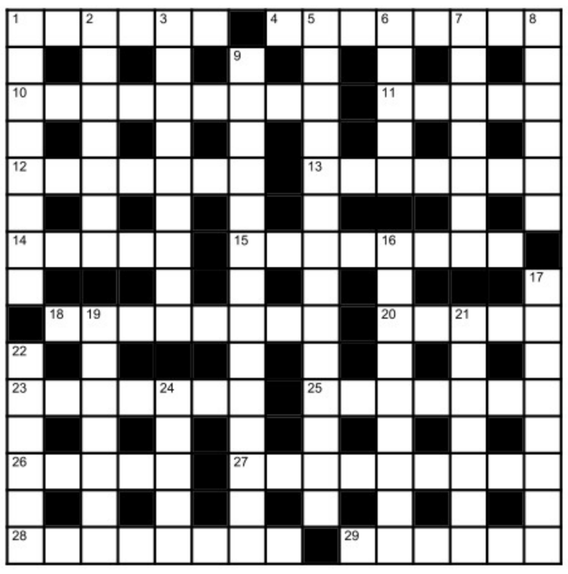
Yes. Women are a major focus of our party's campaign. It was women who stood by us in great numbers both in the U.P. and Gujarat polls.

TH CROSSWORD + 13857

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Victor got in perhaps through this (6)
4 Died fighting, may be perch was rather small (8)
10 Romantic holiday trip? Oh, no, getting money changed (9)
11 Container holding very big beast (5)
12 They're late for a cause (7)
13 One may be green, it varies (7)
14 Called a spade, managed to hold it back (5)
15 Thrown at speed to mutilate (8)
18 "Come closer" - warn about falling in love (4,4)
20 Banker with wine drinking redhead (5)
23 "Transport strike takes first toll" - one tweets (4,3)
25 Another name for the German snake (7)
26 Slow movement - left and right in the past (5)
27 Gross undervaluation - video released, looks odd (9)
28 "Last Game", rambling treatise on astronomy (8)
29 A pay order at close, it's included in the total (6)

Down

1 Passionate to keep macho males in check (8)
2 Chinese puzzle over insect on butter (7)
3 Could be paid anyway, losing a capital (9)
5 Overturn means trumpet, may be (4,10)
6 A bill brought up by Republicans in capital (5)
7 Perception that thing is moving (7)
8 Starved, one escaped from country (6)
9 Drug is safe, bonkers to follow conkers (5,9)
16 Took back grass covered land (9)
17 Shocked to see Bob eating dessert (8)
19 Platform to sort out booze (7)
21 Stop drug, hard to go back (7)
22 Plant in China, be liable to be annexed (6)
24 Nothing different, in goes the strip (5)

SUDOKU

				5		9		
		3			8	7		
9					6	2		5
					7	6	9	
	9		6		4		2	
	7	2	9					
3		9	4					8
		7	3			4		
		6		1				

No.SS5789 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	6	1	7	9	2	4	5	8
4	2	8	6	1	5	9	7	3
7	5	9	8	4	3	6	2	1
5	1	6	4	7	8	2	3	9
2	4	7	9	3	6	1	8	5
8	9	3	2	5	1	7	6	4
1	7	5	3	6	4	8	9	2
6	8	4	5	2	9	3	1	7
9	3	2	1	8	7	5	4	6

FAITH

Kallazhagar's kindness

Chitra pournami – the full moon day in the Tamil month of Chittirai – is one of the most celebrated days among Tamils the world over as well as Tamil literary lore, dating back centuries, and the reason is not far to seek.

It is the day on which Lord Kallazhagar comes riding into the Vaigai river in Madurai in all His glory. It is the day when lakhs of devotees shower Him with water guns, wanting to cool Him after a long journey in peak Indian summer.

Their love for Him is manifold as He comes down to the Vaigai, seeking them, in order to uplift them: his devotees are His *padai* (army). The sight of lakhs of devotees singing *pallandu* and chanting His name, showering Him with love is unparalleled.

The day after Pournami, Kallazhagar arrives in Garuda vahana – Garuda symbolises the Vedas. The very sight of the Lord on both the days sends devotees into unimaginable ecstasy, and with good reason, said Thirukkudanthai Dr. Venkatesh in a discourse.

Why does Kallazhagar arrive in Vaigai and how does it help the faithful of today? According to the sthala purana, Kallazhagar arrives at Vaigai in order to relieve a devotee from a curse.

He continues to arrive in Kali Yuga in order to help devotees swim across the trials and tribulations of daily life and by His sheer presence reassures the faithful that He will continue to come to their aid when in distress. It is the best representation of paramatma and jivatma, with Kallazhagar reaching out to His devotees and negating curses.

LONDON

U.K.'s Sunak warns of 'hard' test in first electoral test with voters

AP

U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Conservatives braced for heavy losses on Thursday in their first electoral test since he became the country's third leader in the space of a few chaotic weeks last year. Surveys suggest that voters are worried about double-digit inflation and the crisis engulfing the National Health Service. AFP

HONG KONG

China-based networks sowing disinformation in West: Meta

AFP

A China-based online network tried to recruit protesters in Europe and set up a media firm in Britain as part of a disinformation campaign, Facebook owner Meta said. Meta said it had removed more than 100 Facebook pages and Instagram accounts, accusing them of violating its policies against inauthentic behaviour. AFP

RUBAVU

Floods, landslips in Rwanda kill over 130, thousands left homeless

REUTERS

Rwandans grieved on Thursday for lost loved ones and destroyed homes after powerful floods and landslips tore through the country killing at least 130 people and leaving many thousands homeless. The Western Province bordering Lake Kivu and the district Rubavu are some of the badly affected regions. AFP

ISTANBUL

Erdogan turns against LGBTQ in run-up to crucial vote on May 14

REUTERS

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Thursday launched a new attack against Turkey's LGBTQ community in a bid to rally his conservative voters in the run-up to May 14 polls. The campaign is being hamstrung by a raging economic crisis and discontent over the government's response to a February earthquake. AFP

Russia blames U.S. for drone hit; White House denies role

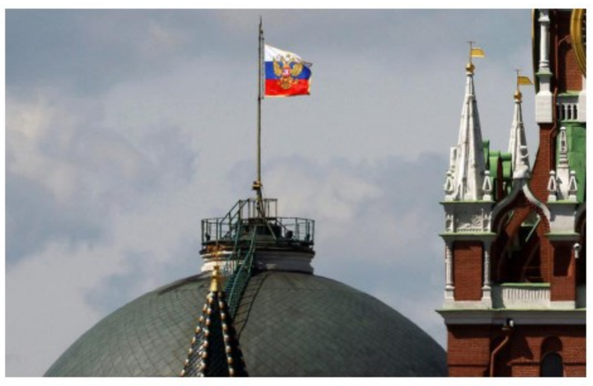
Decision was made in Washington, says Kremlin; Washington says 'Peskov is lying, pure and simple'; Zelensky, in a speech at The Hague, calls for 'Putin to be sentenced for criminal acts'

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW/WASHINGTON

Russia on Thursday accused the U.S. of masterminding a drone attack on the Kremlin and said sabotage attacks by Ukraine behind Russian lines had reached "unprecedented momentum".

The Kremlin has said Ukraine carried out the attack with two drones aiming to kill President Vladimir Putin – a charge which Kyiv has denied. "Decisions on such attacks are made in Washington," Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said.

Mr. Peskov said Mr. Putin was working in his office in the Kremlin as normal on Thursday but added that security measures in Moscow would be beefed up following the attack, which the Kremlin said occurred in the night between Tuesday and Wednesday.



The dome of the Kremlin in Moscow, while the roof shows what appears to be marks from the recent drone incident. REUTERS

Russia has also reported a series of drone attacks on oil facilities and train derailments, blaming Ukraine. "The terrorist and sabotage activities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine are gaining unprecedented momentum," the Russian foreign ministry said in a statement. It added that Russia "reserves the right to take retaliatory measures."

Denies involvement

Meanwhile, the White House on Wednesday denied any involvement in an alleged drone attack on the Kremlin.

"We had nothing to do with this," said John Kirby, spokesperson for the White House National Security Council, on *MSNBC*.

"Peskov is just lying there, pure and simple," he added.

Throughout its more than year-long offensive in Ukraine, Moscow has maintained that Kyiv is taking orders from Washington – accusing the West of leading a war against Russia by proxy.

'Putin will pay'

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Thursday he was convinced that Russian President Putin would face an international war crimes court when Ukraine wins the war that has been raging for over a year.

In a speech titled "No Peace without Justice for Ukraine" given in The Hague, the city that hosts the International Criminal Court, Mr. Zelensky said that Putin "deserves to be sentenced for these criminal actions."

Three wanted Palestinians killed in raid, says Israel

Agence France-Presse
NABLUS

Israel said its security forces shot dead three Palestinians blamed for killing a British-Israeli woman and two of her daughters last month, in a raid in the occupied West Bank on Thursday.

Two suspects in the killings and a third man accused of helping them were killed in a joint operation in Nablus by the Army, police and Shin Bet security service, a statement said. The three men were identified as the "murderers of Leah, Maia and Rina Dee" who died after an attack on April 7.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces shot dead Iman Odeh, a Palestinian woman, in the occupied West Bank on Thursday.

The Israeli Army said an assailant stabbed a soldier, who was "lightly injured" and taken to hospital. The attacker was "neutralised", the Palestinian Health Ministry said.

Ex-Proud Boys leader Tarrio guilty of Jan. 6 sedition plot

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

Former Proud Boys leader Enrique Tarrio was convicted on Thursday of orchestrating a plot for members of his far-right extremist group to attack the U.S. Capitol in a desperate bid to keep Donald Trump in power after the Republican lost the 2020 presidential election.

A jury in Washington, D.C., found Tarrio guilty of seditious conspiracy after hearing from dozens of witnesses over more than three months in one of the most serious cases brought in the stunning attack that unfolded on January 6, 2021, as the world watched on live TV.

It's a significant milestone for the Justice Department, which has now secured seditious conspiracy convictions against the leaders of two major extremist groups prosecutors say were intent on keeping Democrat Joe Biden out of the White House at all costs.

The charge carries a prison sentence of up to 20 years.

Enrique Tarrio

Tarrio was a top target of what has become the largest Justice Department investigation in American history. He led the neo-fascist group – known for street fights with left-wing activists – when Mr. Trump infamously told the Proud Boys to "stand back and stand by" during his first debate with Mr. Biden.

Brain behind attack

Tarrio wasn't in Washington on January 6, because he had been arrested two days earlier in a separate case and ordered out of the capital city. But prosecutors said he organised and directed the attack by Proud Boys who stormed the Capitol that day.

Prosecutors told jurors the group viewed itself as "Trump's Army" and was prepared for "all-out war" to stop Mr. Biden from becoming President.

Defence lawyers denied there was any plot to attack the Capitol or stop Congress' certification of Mr. Biden's win. A lawyer for Tarrio sought to push the blame onto Mr. Trump, arguing the former President incited the pro-Trump mob's attack when he urged the crowd near the White House to "fight like hell."

Tarrio, a Miami resident, was charged and tried with four other Proud Boys: Ethan Nordean, Joseph Biggs, Zachary Rehl and Dominic Pezzola.

The Justice Department hadn't tried a seditious conspiracy case in a decade before a jury convicted another extremist group leader, Oath Keepers founder Stewart Rhodes, of the Civil War-era charge last year.

Sudan truce efforts in tatters as fighting rages

Agence France-Presse
KHARTOUM

Gunfire and explosions gripped Khartoum for a 20th straight day on Thursday leaving the latest ceasefire effort in tatters, a day after UN chief Antonio Guterres acknowledged the international community had "failed" Sudan.

As the latest ceasefire expired at midnight on Wednesday, the regular Army said it was ready to abide by a new seven-day truce agreed with South Sudanese mediators, but there was no word from its foes in the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा

क्रमांक : 221 दिनांक : 27.04.2023

संशोधित निविदा सूचना संख्या- 23/2022-23

इस कार्यालय के निविदा सूचना संख्या- 23/2022-23 के पत्रांक 4380 दिनांक 17.03.2023 एवं संशोधित पत्र क्रमांक 178 दिनांक 20.04.2023 के द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र.सं.	पूर्व में	अब यह पढ़ा जावे
1	ऑनलाइन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख 28.03.2023 से 01.05.2023, सायं 6.00 बजे तक	ऑनलाइन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख 28.03.2023 से 08.05.2023, सायं 6.00 बजे
2	ऑनलाइन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख 28.03.2023 से 01.05.2023, सायं 6.00 बजे तक	ऑनलाइन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख 28.03.2023 से 08.05.2023, सायं 6.00 बजे
3	ऑनलाइन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख 03.05.2023 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक	ऑनलाइन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख 10.05.2023 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक
4	बिड सिक्योरिटी, धरोहर राशि (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्यों हेतु बजट मद 8443-00-108-00-00 (निर्माण विभागों) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 RISL शुल्क रू. 1000/- बजट मद 8658-00-102 - (16)-[02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई-ग्रास पर ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से दिनांक 01.05.2023 सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशाषी अभियंता सा.नि.वि. खण्ड अकलेरा के नाम जमा करवाई जानी है एवं निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि, RISL शुल्क एक ही चालान से तथा (Certificate of correctness of bid documents) शपथ पत्र रू. 1000/- तथा अन्य दस्तावेज तकनीकी बिड के साथ ऑनलाईन प्रस्तुत करना होगा एवं अन्य किसी माध्यम से स्वीकार नहीं होगा।	बिड सिक्योरिटी, धरोहर राशि (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्यों हेतु बजट मद 8443-00-108-00-00 (निर्माण विभागों) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 RISL शुल्क रू. 1000/- बजट मद 8658-00-102 - (16)-[02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई-ग्रास पर ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से दिनांक 08.05.2023 सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशाषी अभियंता सा.नि.वि. खण्ड अकलेरा के नाम जमा करवाई जानी है एवं निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि, RISL शुल्क एक ही चालान से तथा (Certificate of correctness of bid documents) शपथ पत्र रू. 1000/- तथा अन्य दस्तावेज तकनीकी बिड के साथ ऑन लाईन प्रस्तुत करना होगा एवं अन्य किसी माध्यम से स्वीकार नहीं होगा।

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।

UBN No. PWD2223WLOB18855

(नारायण सिंह मीणा) अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
DIPR/C/6225/23 सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा

TVS MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED

TVS

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Website:www.tvsmotor.com Telephone No. (044) 28332115
Fax No. (044) 28332113 Email:contactus@tvsmotor.com
CIN:L35921TN1992PLC022845

STATEMENT OF STANDALONE & CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

(₹ in Crores)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated			
		Quarter ended		Year ended		Quarter ended		Year ended	
		31.03.2023	31.03.2022	31.03.2023	31.03.2022	31.03.2023	31.03.2022	31.03.2023	31.03.2022
		Unaudited		Audited		Unaudited		Audited	
1	Total income from operations	6,675.28	5,538.49	26,478.66	20,809.50	8,098.54	6,598.75	32,111.99	24,388.18
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional items)	546.62	372.68	2,003.37	1,243.37	486.50	369.62	1,937.90	1,106.91
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional items)	546.62	372.68	2,003.37	1,213.21	486.50	367.66	1,936.03	1,066.79
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	410.27	274.50	1,491.03	893.56	335.67	274.67	1,309.46	730.88
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss) (after tax)]	394.88	241.29	1,463.35	829.25	314.41	293.33	1,368.74	733.77
6	Paid up Equity share capital (Face value of Re.1/- each)	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	-	-	6,000.34	4,774.53	-	-	5,457.49	4,351.94
8	Security Premium Account	- NOT APPLICABLE -							
9	Networth	6,038.35	4,804.61	6,038.35	4,804.61	5,422.76	4,324.92	5,422.76	4,324.92
10	Outstanding Debt	2,010.23	1,271.82	2,010.23	1,271.82	19,775.04	13,851.60	19,775.04	13,851.60
11	Outstanding redeemable Preference Shares	- NOT APPLICABLE -							
12	Debt Equity Ratio (Times)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	3.6	3.1	3.6	3.1
13	Earnings Per Share (Face value of Re. 1/- each) (not annualised) (i) Basic (in Rs.) (ii) Diluted (in Rs.)	 8.64 8.64	 5.78 5.78	 31.38 31.38	 18.81 18.81	 7.07 7.07	 5.84 5.84	 27.97 27.97	 15.93 15.93
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	- NOT APPLICABLE -							
15	Debenture Redemption Reserve	- NOT APPLICABLE -							
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary) (Times)	5.0	3.3	5.0	5.2	2.7	2.2	2.9	2.7
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary) (Times)	16.1	12.3	15.2	10.9	8.1	8.5	8.2	7.2
18	Current Ratio (Times)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
19	Long term debt to working capital (Times)	-	-	-	-	3.0	3.5	3.0	3.5
20	Bad debts to Accounts Receivable ratio (Times)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Current liability ratio (Times)	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6
22	Total debts to total assets ratio (Times)	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
23	Debtors Turnover ratio (Times)	27.4	22.6	27.4	22.6	26.5	22.1	26.5	22.1
24	Inventory Turnover ratio (Times)	16.9	13.9	16.9	13.9	11.7	10.8	11.7	10.8
25	Operating Margin (%)	10.3	10.1	10.1	9.4	8.8	9.2	9.1	8.1
26	Net Profit Margin (%)	6.2	5.0	5.7	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.0

Notes:

1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 and 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the Stock exchange websites (www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.tvsmotor.com).

For TVS MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED
Sd/-
Prof. Sir Ralf Dieter Speth
Chairman

Date : May 04, 2023

INBRIEF

TVS Motor Q4 standalone net profit soars 49% to ₹410 crore

TVS Motor Company Ltd. reported standalone net profit for the fourth quarter surged 49% from the year-earlier period to ₹410 crore. Revenue from operations grew by 19% y-o-y to ₹6,605 crore. Cost of materials consumed soared by 14% to ₹4,840 crore. Profit before tax included fair valuation gain ₹62 crore on the equity shares held by the firm. For quarter, motorcycle sales slid to 3.89 lakh units from 4.42 lakh units while scooter sales grew by 30% to 3.40 lakh units.

Chola MS net profit more than doubled to ₹200 cr. for FY23

Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Co. Ltd. (Chola MS) profit before tax and net profit for FY23 have more than doubled to ₹264 crore and ₹200 crore respectively following strong growth in fire, motor and health business. "In FY23, we were ahead of the industry due to growth in all lines of business such as fire, motor and health insurance," said V. Suryanarayanan, MD. Gross written premium of ₹6,200 crore, grew 28% against industry growth of 16%.

Cognizant Q1 net rises 3%; new plan to impact 3,500 staff

IT services company Cognizant, which posted a 3% year-on-year rise in net income for the January-March quarter, gave muted guidance for the full year 2023 revenue and said its new 'NextGen programme,' aimed at simplifying operating model and optimising corporate functions will impact almost 3,500 employees. The drive for simplification will include operating with fewer layers in an effort to enhance agility and enable faster decision-making, it said. PTI

India, Russia said to suspend talks to settle trade in rupees

Two Indian government officials say negotiators unable to convince Moscow to stock rupees in its coffers; an increasing amount of trade is being settled in other currencies like the UAE dirham

Reuters
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

India and Russia have halted efforts to settle bilateral trade in rupees, after months of negotiations failed to convince Moscow to keep rupees in its coffers, two Indian government officials and a source with direct knowledge of the matter said.

This would be a major setback for Indian importers of cheap oil and coal from Russia who were awaiting a rupee payment mechanism to help lower currency conversion costs.

With a high trade gap in favour of Russia, Moscow believes it will end up with an annual rupee surplus of over $40 billion if such a mechanism is worked out and feels rupee accumulation is 'not desirable', an Indian government official, who did not want to be named, told Reuters.

The rupee is not fully convertible and India's share of global exports of goods is just about 2%. These factors reduce the necessity for other countries to hold rupees.

India started exploring a rupee settlement mechanism with Russia soon after the invasion of Ukraine. Most trade is in dollars but an increasing amount is being done in currencies like the UAE dirham.

Talks deadlocked

Negotiations with Moscow on a rupee trade settlement mechanism have been suspended after months of talks

- Seen as a major setback for importers of cheap oil and coal from Russia
- Russia's favourable high trade gap could land it with an annual rupee surplus of over $40 bn, which Moscow sees as not desirable
- India's low share in global trade, rupee's lack of full convertibility seen as factors against holding rupees

APSEZ exits Myanmar port in $30-million fire sale

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. (APSEZ) said it has concluded the sale of its investment in a Myanmar port for $30 million based on an independent valuation.

The sanction-hit Myanmar-based port – Coastal International Terminal Pte. Ltd. – has been sold to U.K.-based Solar Energy Ltd. at a substantial discount. APSEZ had invested about $150 million in the project. The buyer will pay the amount within three business days once APSEZ meets all compliances.

HDFC Q4 net profit rises 20% to ₹4,425 cr

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Mortgage lender Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (HDFC) reported that its fourth quarter net profit grew 20% year-on-year (YoY) to ₹4,425 crore owing to significant improvement in asset quality.

Net interest income for the quarter stood at ₹5,321 crore, up 16% YoY. "During the year, the monetary policy and interest rate actions did have an impact on NII," the lender said.

During the quarter HDFC assigned loans amounting to ₹9,340 crore as compared with ₹8,367 crore a year ago. Profit after tax for the year stood at ₹16,239 crore, up 18% YoY.

Gross non-performing loans as of March 31, 2023 stood at ₹7,246 crore. This amount is equivalent to 1.18% of the lender's portfolio as against 1.91% in the previous year.

HDFC Bank to open 675 non-urban branches

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

HDFC Bank Ltd. has announced plans to open more than 675 branches in semi-urban and rural locations (SURU) of India in FY24. With this the bank's total number of branches in non-urban areas would reach close to 5,000. As of March 31, 2023, it had 52% of its 7,821 branches in SURU areas, the bank said.

On Thursday the bank introduced a programme offering a blend of financial and wellness benefits to non-urban customers.

'CBDC can ease cross border payments'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) could bring about a substantive change in the sphere of cross border payments, RBI Deputy Governor T. Rabi Shankar observed on Thursday, adding that coordination across countries, and between the public and private sectors was, however, essential.

"Cross border payments has been at the forefront of initiatives by G-20 and other organisations for the last few years," Mr. Shankar said, unveiling the fourth edition of the G20 Tech-Sprint, a global technology competition to promote innovative solutions for improving cross-border payments, jointly organised by the RBI and the Bank for International Settlements' BIS Innovation Hub (BISIH). "This Hackathon will give it a fillip in taking this initiative forward."

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	61,749	0.91
US Dollar	81.78	0.02
Gold	62,020	2.09
Brent oil	72.69	1.23

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	1911.25	72.25
Adani Ports	679.75	10.10
Apollo Hosp	4553.20	37.75
Asian Paints	2982.85	53.15
Axis Bank	865.95	6.10
Bajaj Auto	4457.70	9.85
Bajaj Finserv	1374.45	27.45
Bajaj Finance	6390.25	210.00
Bharti Airtel	789.10	9.80
BPCL	368.35	7.55
Britannia Ind	4587.05	59.95
Cipla	933.50	12.85
Coal India	237.45	0.55
Divis Lab	3282.55	13.80
Dr Reddys Lab	4968.00	15.75
Eicher Motors	3339.30	-9.05
Grasim Ind	1759.85	23.95
HCL Tech	1066.80	7.85
HDFC	2862.05	74.30
HDFC Bank	1727.80	34.65
HDFC Life	546.50	7.80
Hero MotoCorp	2514.50	11.85
Hindalco	445.50	3.20
Hind Unilever	2506.75	20.75
ICICI Bank	921.70	-1.15
IndusInd Bank	1134.60	-11.55
Infosys	1273.55	4.40
ITC	424.60	-2.55
JSW Steel	738.70	6.25
Kotak Bank	1947.60	16.65
L&T	2356.90	0.60
M&M	1231.70	-3.75
Maruti Suzuki	8800.60	3.30
NestleIndia	21693.75	-181.95
NTPC	176.35	0.00
ONGC	161.00	-0.15
PowerGrid Corp	238.85	-0.85
Reliance Ind	2448.00	27.90
SBI Life	1167.45	30.55
State Bank	580.00	9.50
Sun Pharma	974.00	10.40
TataConsumerProduct	775.50	-5.90
Tata Motors	480.80	-2.90
Tata Steel	111.05	1.35
TCS	3220.70	40.80
Tech Mahindra	1045.45	5.85
Titan	2670.40	16.35
UltraTech Cement	7502.25	-4.95
UPL	731.50	-8.30
Wipro	383.70	-1.40

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 04

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.60	81.92
Euro	90.21	90.57
British Pound	102.52	102.93
Japanese Yen (100)	60.61	60.86
Chinese Yuan	11.80	11.85
Swiss Franc	92.02	92.39
Singapore Dollar	61.44	61.69
Canadian Dollar	59.93	60.17
Malaysian Ringitt	18.30	18.40
Australian Dollar	54.44	54.66

Source:Indian Bank

Adani Enterprises Q4 net more than doubles

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Adani Enterprises Ltd., the flagship company of billionaire Gautam Adani's ports-to-energy group, reported a more than doubling of net profit in the March quarter on the back of healthy growth in airports and road businesses.

Net profit in January-March at ₹722.48 crore more than doubled from ₹304.32 crore in the year-earlier period, according to a stock exchange filing.

The company's revenue soared to ₹31,716.40 crore in the fourth quarter of 2022-23 fiscal, from ₹25,141.56 crore in the year-earlier period.

Sundram Fasteners Q4 net surges 63%

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Sundram Fasteners Ltd. (SFL) standalone net profit for the quarter ended March surged 63% from the year-earlier period to ₹116 crore.

Revenue from operations rose by 7.7% to ₹1,235 crore while the cost of materials climbed marginally from ₹555 crore to ₹557 crore, SFL said in a filing.

Domestic sales increased by 9.48% to ₹821 crore, while export volume grew 4.03% to ₹381 crore.

For FY23, domestic sales soared to ₹3,235 crore (₹2,631 crore) recording a growth of 23% on the back of an increase in domestic demand.

On exports, SFL said that despite global headwinds, it achieved ₹1,529 crore against ₹1,421 crore.

The board declared a second interim dividend of ₹3.06 per share.

The board also approved the reappointment of Nirmala Lakshman, non-executive independent director, for a second term of five consecutive years commencing from September 20.

Rane Engine Valve turned a net profit of ₹4.9 cr. in Q4

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Rane Engine Valve Ltd., (REVL) has posted a standalone net profit of ₹4.9 crore for the quarter ended March against a loss of ₹0.01 crore in the year-earlier period on account of strong sales volume.

Revenue from operations grew 25% to ₹136 crore, while raw material costs increased by 29% to ₹56 crore, the firm said.

"REVL continues to prioritise operational improvement project,s including capacity optimisation for sustaining and improving the performance," Group Chairman L. Ganesh said.

PV, two-wheeler retail sales dip in April: FADA

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Passenger vehicle and two-wheeler retail sales witnessed a decline in April while three-wheelers, tractors and commercial vehicles witnessed an increase in registrations last month, automobile dealers' body FADA said on Thursday.

Passenger vehicle retail sales in India slipped 1% year-on-year to 2,82,674 units last month, as buyers advanced purchases to March in order to avoid enhanced prices on account of stricter emission norms kicking in from April 1.

"The passenger vehicle segment, which achieved record sales in FY23, slowed down in April," Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) president Manish Raj Singhania said.

Two-wheeler registrations also declined by 7% to 12,29,911 units in April as against 13,26,773 units in the year-earlier period.

Three-wheeler retail sales, however, rose by 57% to 70,928 units last month from 45,114 units in April 2022.

Go First extends flight cancellations till May 9

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The airline has informed the DGCA that it will not be taking any further bookings till May 15

Go First on Thursday extended flight cancellations until May 9 and informed the DGCA that it would not be taking any further bookings till May 15.

This comes on a day the NCLT reserved its judgment on the airline's plea for insolvency proceedings and an interim moratorium on lessors re-possessing its planes.

Go First also informed the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) that the airline was working to either issue refunds to passengers or reschedule flights for the period beyond May 15. The latter ordered the airline to process refunds under DGCA regulations as per the laid down timelines.

Go First argued in the court for an interim moratorium to protect its aircraft from being repossessed by lessors, along with de-freezing of bank accounts.

It also sought admission of its insolvency plea so that the airline could be run under an Insolvency Resolution Professional as a going concern with the remaining 26 aircraft in its fleet.

IN AND OUT

Charles named as Litton's replacement by Knight Riders

KKR named Johnson Charles as a replacement for Litton Das for the remainder of the IPL. Litton returned to Bangladesh due to a family commitments last week. Charles — a wicketkeeper-batter — has represented West Indies in 41 T20Is, scoring 971 runs and was a part of West Indies' 2012 and 2016 ICC World T20-winning squads.

ROTTEN LUCK

Rohit creates unfortunate batting record in IPL match against PBKS

MI skipper Rohit Sharma registered an unwanted batting record during the match against PBKS. Rohit, playing his 200th match for MI, was dismissed for a three-ball duck, taking his tally of zeroes in IPL to 15. He now has the joint-most number of ducks in IPL history along with Dinesh Karthik, Mandeep Singh and Sunil Narine.

ON A ROLL

MI first team to successfully chase consecutive 200 plus targets

Mumbai Indians, which chased down 215 against Punjab Kings at Mohali, became the first team to successfully overhaul 200 plus targets in two consecutive IPL matches. Earlier, Mumbai Indians had chased down 213 in a dramatic fashion against Rajasthan Royals in Mumbai.

PLEASANT SURPRISE

Kedar Jadhav on how he got the call from Royal Challengers

"Absolutely surprised, but a pleasant one. [Sanjay] Bangar asked me about my fitness to which I said I was regular at the gym and told him I was in good shape. He asked a time and said he'll call me back. It was that moment I realised that he would call me and tell me to play for RCB," said Kedar Jadhav on his recall.

Knight Riders trump Sunrisers in a close encounter

Varun Chakravarthy's miserly final over, giving away only three runs, does the trick for the visitors after the hosts looked to be on course to bring delight to their fans

IPL-16

V V Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Kolkata Knight Riders pulled off a thrilling, five-run win over Sunrisers Hyderabad in their Indian Premier League match at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium here on Thursday.

It all came down to the last over with Sunrisers needing nine runs to win with Abdul Samad and Bhuvneshwar Kumar at the crease.

But leg-spinner Varun Chakravarthy bowled a splendid over, conceding just three runs besides dismissing the dangerous Samad, much to the delight of his teammates.

Standout performers: Varun, being congratulated by teammates, complemented Rinku's fine knock that boosted KKR's total after its skipper Nitish's useful innings was ended by a spectacular effort from SRH captain Markram. NAGARA GOPAL

Turnaround

When captain Aiden Markaram and the free-stroking Heinrich Klaasen strung a partnership of 70 for the fifth wicket off 47 balls, Sunrisers looked on course.

But after the two departed in quick succession with the score reading 145 for six in 16.5 overs, the pressure was back on the home team.

A disciplined bowling effort in the slog overs by Knight Riders saw Sunrisers score only 32 runs in the last five and lose three wickets.

This eventually proved to be costly.

Earlier, Knight Riders, electing to bat, posted 171 for nine in 20 overs thanks to useful contributions from captain Nitish Rana, southpaw Rinku Singh, and the big-hitting Andre Russell.

Double blow

Left-arm pacer Marco Jansen's double blow in his first over and the second of the innings – removing opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz for a first-ball duck and then inducing a top-edge of an attempted hook from the left-handed Venkatesh Iyer – dented Knight Riders' hopes of a breezy start.

In the fifth over, pacer Kartik Tyagi, who was erratic, saw the dangerous Jason Roy go for the slog, only to top-edge and be caught as Knight Riders was reduced to 35 for three.

The early setbacks also meant the visitors could score only 49 in the PowerPlay.

Good stand

Rana looked good, picking Tyagi for special treatment by hitting him for a four and two pull shots that cleared the fence in the 10th over.

He added an useful 61 off 40 balls for the fourth wicket with Rinku.

But Markram's brilliant diving catch off his own bowling, following a mistimed lofted shot from his counterpart, put the hosts back in the game in the 12th over.

In the last five overs, Sunrisers conceded only 42 while claiming four wickets.

Left-arm pacer Natarajan bowled an excellent final over, conceding only three runs, besides forcing Rinku to pull one to the deep mid-wicket area, where Abdul Samad completed a spectacular diving catch.

SCOREBOARD

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS

Jason Roy c Mayank b Tyagi 20 *(19b, 4x4)*, Rahmanullah Gurbaz c Brook b Jansen 0 *(1b)*, Venkatesh Iyer c Klaasen b Jansen 7 *(4b, 1x4)*, Nitish Rana c & b Markram 42 *(31b, 3x4, 3x6)*, Rinku Singh c Samad b Natarajan 46 *(35b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Andre Russell c Natarajan b Markande 24 *(15b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Sunil Narine c Mayank b Bhuvneshwar 1 *(2b)*, Shardul Thakur c Samad b Natarajan 8 *(6b, 1x4)*, Anukul Roy **(Impact Player in place of Jason Roy)** (not out) 13 *(7b, 2x4)*, Harshit Rana run out 0 *(1b)*, Vaibhav Arora (not out) 2 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-5, nb-2): 8; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 171.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-8 (Gurbaz, 1.1 overs), 2-16 (Venkatesh, 1.6), 3-35 (Roy, 4.4), 4-96 (Nitish, 11.2), 5-127 (Russell, 14.2), 6-130 (Narine, 15.3), 7-151 (Shardul, 17.3), 8-168 (Rinku, 19.2), 9-168 (Harshit, 19.3).

SUNRISERS BOWLING

Bhuvneshwar 4-0-33-1, Jansen 3-0-24-2, Tyagi 2-0-30-1, Markram 3-0-24-1, Natarajan 4-0-30-2, Markande 4-0-29-1.

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD

Abhishek Sharma c Russell b Shardul 9 *(10b, 1x4)*, Mayank Agarwal c Gurbaz b Harshit 18 *(11b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Rahul Tripathi **(Impact Player in place of Natarajan)** c Arora b Russell 20 *(9b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Aiden Markram c Rinku b Arora 41 *(40b, 4x4)*, Harry Brook lbw b Anukul 0 *(4b)*, Heinrich Klaasen c Russell b Shardul 36 *(20b, 1x4, 3x6)*, Abdul Samad c Anukul b Varun 21 *(18b, 3x4)*, Marco Jansen c Gurbaz b Arora 1 *(4b)*, Bhuvneshwar Kumar (not out) 5 *(5b, 1x4)*, Mayank Markande (not out) 1 *(2b)*; Extras (b-1, lb-6, w-4, nb-3): 14; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 166.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-29 (Mayank, 2.5 overs), 2-37 (Abhishek, 3.5), 3-53 (Tripathi, 5.3), 4-54 (Brook, 6.2), 5-124 (Klaasen, 14.1), 6-145 (Markram, 16.5), 7-152 (Jansen, 18.1), 8-165 (Samad, 19.3).

KNIGHT RIDERS BOWLING

Harshit 4-0-27-1, Arora 3-0-32-2, Shardul 3-0-23-2, Russell 1-0-15-1, Anukul 3-0-26-1, Narine 2-0-16-0, Varun 4-0-20-1.

Toss: KKR.

PoM: Varun.

Knight Riders won by five runs.

Next assignment

SRH: May 7 vs. **RR**
Jaipur, 7.30 p.m.

KKR: May 8 vs. **PBKS**
Kolkata, 7.30 p.m.

There's a Jofra Archer-sized hole in Mumbai Indians' bowling

Ayan Acharya
MOHALI

Mumbai Indians may have chased down 215 against Punjab Kings in Mohali with seven balls to spare, but Wednesday night was another affirmation of the fact that bowling is not MI's strong suit right now. More specifically, there's a Jofra Archer-sized hole in Mumbai's bowling.

In Mohali, Archer had gone for only five in his first over. But in the 13th and 19th overs, he ended up conceding 21 and 27, respectively.

Expensive figures

In all, Archer gave 56 in four overs without picking a wicket, his most expensive T20 figures. Before Wednesday, Archer had conceded 50-plus runs in a T20 only once – against Surrey in August 2017.

Archer has looked a pale shadow of his former self this season.

The English pacer has two wickets in four IPL 2023 matches at an average of 83 and an economy of 10.37.

He resorted to his variations, mostly slower ones, for the large part of his spell against Punjab.

While the two-paced nature of the Mohali pitch and the large square boundaries may have led to this choice, you'd think Mumbai would be better off if Archer went at full tilt for his 24 balls.

The 28-year-old refrained from bowling yorkers and fast bouncers, except for when he ruffled Jitesh Sharma with a short ball at 152.6 kph – one of the fastest of the IPL 2023 so far.

Rohit Sharma also gave Archer just one over in the first six against Punjab. Archer has built his T20 reputation around an excellent PowerPlay record, which he has embellished with lines and lengths that mirror typical Test-match bowling. But perhaps his recent elbow niggle has made that difficult.

Pale shadow: Archer has not been at his usual best and that has hurt Mumbai Indians. IPL / SPORTZPICS

Points Table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Gujarat Titans	9	6	3	0	12	0.532
Lucknow Super Giants	10	5	4	1	11	0.639
Chennai Super Kings	10	5	4	1	11	0.329
Rajasthan Royals	9	5	4	0	10	0.800
Royal Challengers Bangalore	9	5	4	0	10	-0.030
Mumbai Indians	9	5	4	0	10	-0.373
Punjab Kings	10	5	5	0	10	-0.472
Kolkata Knight Riders	10	4	6	0	8	-0.103
Sunrisers Hyderabad	9	3	6	0	6	-0.540
Delhi Capitals	9	3	6	0	6	-0.768

After the SRH-KKR match on May 4

Rajasthan Royals will look to take over the top spot from Gujarat Titans

P.K. Ajith Kumar
JAIPUR

Two sides that have played some sparkling cricket this IPL season come face to face on Friday. The reverse fixture featuring Rajasthan Royals and Gujarat Titans at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium should be fascinating.

Titans, the defending champion, is sitting atop the table, but Royals, the winner of the inaugural edition, could take that place if it wins. Both sides should want to put the defeat in their last matches behind them.

Yashasvi Jaiswal's brilliant two-run-a-ball 124 would have been enough to win most T20 matches, but Mumbai Indians chased down a big total at the Wankhede Stadium. The elegant left-hander is going through a breakthrough season.

Royals must be hoping he continues his incredible run: his last four innings read 44, 47, 77 and 124. The host needs skipper Sanju Samson and Jos Buttler, who is going through a rough patch after beginning the season with three fifties from four innings, to regain their magical touch.

Its potent and varied bowling attack, which includes R. Aswhin, Yuzendra Chahal and Trent Boult, will have to return to its best after the Mumbai debacle.

Titans also has an excellent attack spearheaded by Mohammed Shami and Rashid Khan. The bowlers had done their job in the loss against Delhi, but the batters could not quite. Captain Hardik Pandya made an unbeaten 59, but it wasn't enough in the low-scoring affair.

Titans, however, need not read too much into that setback, especially when their batting boasts the likes of the classy Shubman Gill and Vijay Shankar, who has taken his great domestic form to the IPL, as it looks to avenge the three-wicket loss to Royals.

Fingers crossed: The host needs Sanju and Buttler, who is going through a rough patch, to regain their magical touch. PTI

TODAY'S MATCH

RAJASTHAN ROYALS vs. GUJARAT TITANS

Jaipur, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Played: **4**

RR **1** | GT **3**

PREVIOUS MEETING

RR won by three wickets, 2023

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIO CINEMA APP

INBRIEF

Emma Raducanu to miss French Open and Wimbledon

Emma Raducanu has been ruled out of the French Open and Wimbledon and will be sidelined for "a few months" after undergoing minor surgical procedures on her ankle and hands. The 2021 US Open winner shared the information on social media with a handwritten note that accompanied a photo of her in a hospital bed.

Tondaiman misses the semifinal in shoot off

Prithviraj Tondaiman came up with a perfect fifth round of 25 to keep himself in the reckoning for a semifinal berth, but lost the shoot-off after being tied with three others on 119 for the last three spots in the men's trap event of the shotgun World Cup in Cairo on Thursday. Zoravar Singh Sandhu and Bhowneesh Mendiratta shot 116 each and were placed 16th and 21st respectively. Lakshay Sheoran, shooting in the RPO section, managed to reach 109. In women's trap, Shreyasi Singh and Rajeshwari Kumar had identical scores of 108, and were placed 20th and 24th respectively. Preeti Rajak had 106.

Pakistan's first ODI series win over New Zealand in 12 years

Pakistan registered its first One-Day International series win over New Zealand in 12 years with a hard-fought 26-run victory in the third match in Karachi on Wednesday. Imam-ul-Haq scored a 107-ball 90 while Babar Azam made a 62-ball 54 for his 26th ODI half-century to guide Pakistan to 287-6 in its 50 overs. Opener Tom Blundell hit a 78-ball 65 for New Zealand while debutant Cole McConchie struck an undefeated 45-ball 64 but the visitors were bowled out for 261 in 49.1 overs. Pakistan took an unassailable 3-0 lead in the five-match series.

The scores: Pakistan 287/6 in 50 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 90, Babar Azam 54) bt New Zealand 261 in 49.1 overs (T. Blundell 65, C. McConchie 64 n.o., T. Latham 45). **Toss:** New Zealand.

Mark Nicholas named next president of MCC

Ex-Hampshire captain and noted broadcaster Mark Nicholas has been named the next president of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC). The 65-year-old, who was elected as a member of MCC in 1981, will serve a 12-month term, taking up the post on October 1 from Stephen Fry.

Indian girls beat Vietnam, to meet New Zealand

India defeated Vietnam 2-0 in the play-off match for minor placings in the Asia-Oceania Junior Billie Jean King Cup under-16 girls tennis tournament in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, on Thursday. In the match for the nine-12th places, India will play New Zealand.

The results: Play-off 9-16: India bt Vietnam 2-0 (Sejal Bhutada bt Bao Ngan Ngo 6-3, 4-6, [10-3]; Asmi Adkar bt Hong Hanh Ngo 6-3, 6-3).

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: MTV, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6.30 a.m.
Pakistan vs New Zealand: 4th ODI, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4 p.m.
ATP Madrid Open: Sony LIV, 4.30 p.m. onwards.
IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.
Athletics: Diamond League, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 9.30 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 SD & HD) & LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday).

Record-setting Haaland takes City to the top again

Atletico Madrid overtakes Real in the LaLiga standings with 5-0 drubbing of Cadiz; Lazio reclaims second spot in the Serie A with win over Sassuolo

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
MANCHESTER

Trendsetter: Haaland receives a guard of honour from teammates after breaking the record for most goals scored in a single Premier League season. REUTERS

Erling Haaland set a new record of 35 goals in a Premier League season as Manchester City overcame West Ham 3-0 to move back to the top of the table on Wednesday as Liverpool edged out Fulham 1-0.

City was made to work by an under-manned Hammers to edge one point clear of Arsenal in the title race, with a game in hand still to come.

Nathan Ake was the unlikely figure to break the deadlock as the Dutch defender rose highest to power home Riyad Mahrez's free-kick.

But there was no surprise over the scorer of City's second as Haaland raced onto Jack Grealish's pass and deftly dinked the ball over the advancing Lukasz Fabianski.

Past Shearer & Cole

Haaland moved past Alan Shearer and Andy Cole's mark of 34 set for Blackburn and Newcastle respectively in the 1990s.

Haaland was given a guard of honour by his teammates as he left the pitch after full-time.

Phil Foden came off the bench to add the final flourish as his sweetly-struck volley deflected off Emerson Palmieri to leave Fabianski wrong-footed five minutes from time.

Lazio beat Sassuolo 2-0 on Wednesday to reclaim second place in Serie A.

Lazio needed to win at the Stadio Olimpico to remain in mathematical contention with five matches to go in its season but more importantly for its own fight to qualify for the Champions League.

Antoine Griezmann shone as Atletico Madrid thrashed Cadiz 5-1 on Wednesday to climb above rival Real Madrid into second in LaLiga. Diego Simeone's side is a point above the champion but 13 behind leader Barcelona, which just needs two more points to clinch the title.

The results: Premier League: Manchester City 3 (Ake 50, Haaland 70, Foden 85) bt West Ham 0; Liverpool 1 (Salah 39-pen) bt Fulham 0.
Serie A: Atalanta 3 (De Roon 32, Zappacosta 48, Muriel 54) bt Spezia 2 (Gyasi 18, Bourabia 64); Juventus 2 (Paredes 15, Vlahovic 40) bt Lecce 1 (Ceesay 37-pen); Lazio 2 (Anderson 14, Basic 90+2) bt Sassuolo 0; AC Milan 1 (Messias 90+3) drew with Cremonese 1 (Okereke 77); Monza 1 (Caldirola 39) drew with Roma 1 (El Shaarawy 25); Salernitana 3 (Dia 10, 59, 81-pen) drew with Fiorentina 3 (Gonzalez 36, Ikone 71, Biraghi 85); Verona 0 lost to Inter Milan 6 (Gaich 31-og, Calhanoglu 37, Dzeko 38, 61, Martinez 55, 90+3).
LaLiga: Valencia 1 (Lino 72) drew with Villarreal 1 (Jackson 62); Atletico Madrid 5 (Griezmann 2, 27, Morata 49, Carrasco 57-pen, Molina 73) bt Cadiz 1 (Lozano 72); Getafe 1 (Unal 3-pen) bt Celta Vigo 0.

Sahani, Bhoria and Berwal advance but Thapa makes his exit

BOXING WORLDS

Sports Bureau

Asian medalists Govind Sahani (48kg), Deepak Bhoria (51kg) and Narender Berwal (+92kg) won their respective bouts, while Shiva Thapa (63.5kg) crashed out of the World boxing championships in Tashkent on Thursday.

Sahani beat Tajikistan's Mehron Shafiev 5-0 to make it to the pre-quarterfinals. After winning the first round, Sahani was on backfoot after a right from Shafiev knocked down the Indian and inflicted an eight count on him.

Sahani dominated the exchange of punches in the third round to emerge as the winner. He will take on top-seeded Georgian Sakhil Alakhverdovi, a Worlds bronze medallist and a European champion, next.

Back with a bang

Returning to action after a long time, Deepak displayed an assortment of combinations to beat Luis Delgado of Ecuador 5-0.

Deepak employed his straight punches and hooks well to take the first round 4-1. He relied on his fine footwork to stay ahead even though the shorter Luis stepped up attack in the second period.

Deepak's watchful game and ring craft stopped his rival. He will face top-seeded World champion and Olympic bronze medallist top seed Saken Bibossinov Kazakhstan in the round of 32.

Narender overcame a tough opponent, also an Asian bronze medallist Tajikistan's Muhammad Abroridinov, 4-1 to enter the pre-quarterfinals.

Eighth-seeded Narender executed some lovely hooks to seize initiative against the taller Abroridinov. The Indian was penalized for hitting the back of his opponent's head in the second round.

With Abororidinov also losing a point in the third round, Narender exhibited his solid combinations to taste victory. He will meet Cuban Fernando Arzola Lopez.

Six-time Asian medallist and Worlds bronze medallist Thapa, who got a first round bye, lost 3-4 to Brazilian southpaw Yuri Reis through 'bout review.'

Reis used his quick hands to stay narrowly ahead in the first two rounds whereas Thapa dominated the third by landing a bigger volume of punches.

Indians will aim to improve Olympic qualification rankings

ASIAN WEIGHTLIFTING

Press Trust of India
JINJU (KOREA)

Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Mirabai Chanu will once again spearhead the Indian challenge at the Asian weightlifting championships, but is unlikely to attempt the much-awaited 90kg snatch lift here on Friday.

Mirabai had won silver in her last outing at the Worlds in December with an overall effort of 200kg (87kg +113kg). It was far below her personal best of 207kg (88kg+119kg) and this time too, she is not expected to test her limits.

It will also be the first time that Jeremy Lalrinnunga (67kg) and Achinta Sheuli (73kg) will compete in an event since winning the Commonwealth Games gold last August.

The duo will aim to collect the required ranking points to qualify for the Paris Olympics.

The Asian Championship is the qualifying event for the 2024 Olympics.

The Indian squad: Mirabai Chanu (49kg), Bindyarani Devi (55kg), Shubham Todkar (61kg), Jeremy Lalrinnunga (67kg), Achinta Sheuli (73kg) and Narayana Ajith (73kg).

Wrestlers to continue protest despite Supreme Court decision

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court decision to close the case filed by the protesting wrestlers may have been a setback for them, but the wrestlers have refused to consider it the end and insist the protests will continue.

"We are grateful to the Supreme Court for all they have done so far for us and we will abide by their orders today. It took their direction and intervention for even the FIR to be filed after six days," Vinesh Phogat declared.

"The government lawyer (SG Tushar Mehta) has also assured the court that the statements of all the girls in front of a magistrate will be done at the earliest. But our protest will continue till Brij Bhushan is arrested, there is no change of stance on that.

Fighting on: Vinesh, Bajrang and Sakshi address the media on Thursday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

"The SC has also said we can approach the lower courts or High Court. If the investigation doesn't move quickly or take any action, we can always go back to the SC," she said, adding that the police had been lying and only been working to protect Singh so far.

"This is not a setback for us, we know the court doesn't order anyone's arrest, it goes by the probe; it is the duty of the police to register statements, investigate and arrest the culprit. Everyone including the SC is bound by law and constitution," Sakshi Malik added.

Asked about continuing the protest despite the lack of amenities after Wednesday night's scuffle – the wrestlers' claimed their generator and mattresses had been confiscated – Vinesh said there was no backing out.

Ankita fights back to make the last eight

TENNIS

Sports Bureau

Third seed Ankita Raina saved five match points from 3-6 in the second set tie-break to beat Anna Brogan of Britain 2-6, 7-6(9), 6-0 in the $40,000 ITF women's tennis pre-quarterfinals in Tbilisi, Georgia, on Thursday.

The results: $80,000 Challenger, Gwangju, Korea: Doubles (quarterfinals): Arjun Kadhe & Nam Ji Sung (Kor) bt Ruben Gonzales (Phi) & Yuta Shimizu (Jpn) 6-0, 6-1; Anirudh Chandrasekar & Vijay Sundar Prashanth bt Yu Hsiou Hsu & Tung-Lin Wu (Tpe) 5-7, 7-5, [10-4].
$40,000 ITF women, Tbilisi, Georgia: Pre-quarterfinals: Sahaja Yamalapalli bt Anastasia Zolotareya 7-5, 6-3; Ankita Raina bt Anna Brogan (GBr) 2-6, 7-6(9), 6-0.
$25,000 ITF women, Nottingham: Pre-quarterfinals: Taylah Preston (Aus) bt Rutuja Bhosale 6-3, 6-2.
$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: Pre-quarterfinals: Vaishnavi Adkar bt Elena Karner (Aut) 6-2, 6-4.

Qualifier Karatsev in Madrid semis

Pumped! Karatsev, who has been ranked as high as 14th, reached his first Masters 1000 semifinal. AFP

Associated Press
MADRID

Qualifier Aslan Karatsev reached his first Masters 1000 semifinal after ending a strong run by Chinese player Zhang Zhizhen 7-6 (3), 6-4 at the Madrid Open on Thursday.

The 121st-ranked Russian saved all three breaks points he faced in the first set and converted his only opportunity in the second.

Karatsev has been ranked as high as 14th. In 2021, he became the first man in his Grand Slam debut to reach the Australian Open semifinals.

Carlos Alcaraz made sure he will get to celebrate his 20th birthday on court come Friday. The defending champion overcame a tough test from Karen Khachanov on Wednesday.

Women's No. 1 Iga Swiatek also made it to the last four, cruising to a 6-0, 6-3 win over Petra Martic.

The results: Quarterfinals: Karatsev bt Zhang 7-6(3), 6-4.
On Wednesday: Men: Alcaraz bt Khachanov 6-4, 7-5. **Women:** Swiatek bt Martic 6-0, 6-3.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Akhilesh and Kesav shine for South Cricketers

Akhilesh Pradhan (93) and Kesav Arun (4/22) starred for South Cricketers as it beat Panthers CA by 20 runs in the Tiger Cup under-12 cricket tournament here on Thursday.

The scores: South Cricketers 163/5 in 30 overs (Akhilesh Pradhan 93, Siddharth Ram Narayan) bt Panthers Cricket Academy 143 in 28.4 overs (Siddharth Ram Narayan 49, Kesav Arun 4/22).

Maverick Master CA 110/6 in 23 overs (S. Deeksha 26) lost to Magadi CA 111/2 in 10.5 overs (Sanjit Sathish 62, T. Keshav 25).

Arjun nets two in Bellary HC's narrow win

Arjun Reddy scored a brace as Bellary HC edged Bangalore United HC 4-3 in the Travancore Cup hockey tournament here on Thursday.

The results: Bellary HC 4 (Akhil 11, Abhishek 16, Arjun Reddy 4, 39) bt Bangalore United HC 3 (Govind 26, 44, Arvind 46).

Prithvi and Sanjay do the 'trick as Reds United FC runs riot

Prithvi scored four goals and Sanjay three as Reds United FC thrashed Basavanagudi 11-0 in the BDFA C-division football league championship here on Thursday.

The results: Reds United FC 11 (Prithvi 10, 11, 17, 24, Sanjay 13, 29, 37, Sanskar 44, Nihal 45, Siddharth 52, 53) bt Basavanagudi 0; Muslim Heroes FC 7 (Parishudh Brise 3, Santosh 9, R. Karthick 17, Aaron Gudinmo 37, 43, Muriaz Ali 44, Puneet Naik 53) bt ITC 1 (Jaikumar 2); Indira Nagar FC 4 (Abraham 24, Raikin 40, Surya 48, Harsh 60+2) bt Minerva FC 2 (Chidambaram Moorthy 14, 46); Juno FC 5 (Nithin Francies 18, 34, M. Mahesh 30+1, 47, Md. Shamil 48) bt Devanahalli FC 0.

Young Orion's SC gets past DYES Vijayapura

Young Orion's SC beat DYES Vijayapura 45-43 after extra time in a girls' category match of the State under-16 basketball championship here on Thursday. Among boys, Raj Rishi's 35 points went in vain as Appaiah BC lost to JSC 48-59.

Shoaib Khan pots a win

Shoaib Khan beat Sri Krishna 4-2 (65-38, 35-68, 64-37, 42-94, 54-45, 67-55) in the round of 64 at the Bangalore Snooker Academy All India Open Championship being held here.

Arihant emerges champion

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Indian Squash and Triathlon Academy (ISTA) trainee K.S. Arihant prevailed over Gurveer Singh in a gruelling five-set final to emerge the under-17 boys' champion of the Southern Slam squash championships, a five-star event, at ISTA here on Saturday.

The results (finals):
Boys, u-11: Ayaan Dhanuka (WB) bt Shayan Samtani (USA) 11-9, 11-2, 11-3; **U-13:** Shrrinith Subramanian Arun Subhas (TN) bt Shresht Iyer (Kar) 11-3, 8-11, 11-4, 11-8; **U-15:** Aryaveer Dewan (Del) bt Darshil Parasrampuria (TN) 11-8, 11-8, 11-7; **U-17:** K.S. Arihant (TN) bt Gurveer Singh (Del) 6-11, 11-7, 11-3, 5-11, 11-8; **U-19:** Rohan Arya Gondi (USA) bt Yuvraj Wadhwani (Mah) 15-13, 11-7, 8-11, 11-8.
Girls, u-11: Deepa Debiram (TN) bt Tarini Mirdha (USA) 11-2, 11-5, 11-7; **U-13:** Aadya Budhia (Jha) bt Saanvi Kalanki (MP) 11-7, 11-5, 11-3; **U-15:** Akanksha Gupta (Mah) bt Dakshayani Thangaraja (Malaysia) 11-9, 11-3, 5-11, 11-8; **U-17:** Diya Yadav (USA) bt Darsyanaa Ravintharan (Malaysia) 11-4, 11-2, 11-2; **U-19:** Anahat Singh (Del) bt R. Pooja Arthi (TN) 11-5, 11-4, 11-4.